

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Tom Rothman, Chairman Sony Pictures
Randy Lake, EVP Sony Pictures
Mark Breakspear (leading the tour)
Mayor Gregor Robertson

Spiderman. Alice in Wonderland. Smurfs. Angry Birds.

Some of the most recognizable characters and some of the top-grossing movies worldwide.

The company that brought these characters to life is Sony Imageworks. And since 2010, they've been doing it from Vancouver.

Sony Pictures Imageworks is once again leading the pack – this time into the downtown core.

Sony's new state-of-the-art facility can accommodate up to 700 artists. It has the largest VFX footprint in Vancouver.

If you're considering career paths...

Or like me, have a strong interest in someone else's future career path...

In BC, high tech employees in B.C. earn above the national average – and 60% more than the average British Columbian.

More than 86,000 British Columbians work in tech. That includes people whose work supports animation – but also clean energy. People leading innovation in mining, forestry, and natural gas.

We're adding tech jobs every year, as companies like Amazon, Hootsuite, Facebook and Electronic Arts have all made B.C. home.

And now Sony Imageworks and Microsoft will anchor a new tech hub downtown. These two powerhouse neighbours are going to create more and more opportunities.

These companies are coming here for three reasons:

- First, we have a highly educated, skilled and imaginative workforce.
- Second, our province's strong support of business and investment.
- And third – just look around. It doesn't get much better than Vancouver.

BC is thriving because we have a growing and diverse economy and diverse markets – and tech is leading the way.

–END–

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Hon. Peter Fassbender

Hon. Amrik Virk

Gordon Hogg

Marvin Hunt

One of our greatest accomplishments as a province, as a country is bringing together people of all denominations. Living side by side.

Not just to tolerate our differences – but to work together and make a difference in people's lives.

I wish this wasn't extraordinary. But for most of the world, what we have accomplished here is just a goal.

I want to personally thank you for everything you do for our communities.

One of the foundations that has helped me in my life and my career is my faith.

It gives me the courage to do the right thing...even when people disagree.

One of the ways faith helps is perspective. Seeing past the temptation of short-term gain.

Taking the long view, and building a foundation for long-term prosperity.

It also gives focus to the values that underpin our decisions as a government:

- Create more opportunity for the next generation
- Leave this province as beautiful as we found it
- Take care of those who need it most, in a way that lifts everyone up.

These values are informed by faith – but they are common values. They're what define us as British Columbians, regardless of denomination.

Thank you.

There are a lot of perks that come from living in the Lower Mainland – and one of them is world class sports. In the last year, we hosted:

- The last Grey Cup...
- The Women's World Cup...
- And today, one of the largest field hockey tournaments in North America.

The Canada Cup is what international sport is all about: bringing together thousands of people from around the world to meet, compete, and celebrate the sport they love.

That's why this tournament has grown every year – and that's why Surrey is the perfect host...a place where we embrace and celebrate diversity.

What you are doing here is really important – sports teach discipline, hard work and perseverance. It makes people well-rounded – and better citizens.

I want to thank all the sponsors and organizers that make this tournament happen.

And to everyone playing...keep your stick on the grass.

Madame Speaker, pursuant to the leave just granted...
I am pleased to rise and speak to second reading of Bill 30
the "Liquefied Natural Gas Project Agreements Act"

It's not every day this house has a chance to make history.

Today we are building the stage for a project that could
create 4,500 jobs. The first step towards building a new
industry that could employ 100,000 people.

An industry that could strengthen our economy with
unprecedented direct investment.

An industry that will create new opportunities for small and
medium sized businesses across the province.

An industry that will give future governments the means to
continue to pay for services families depend on, like
education and health care.

Today we are building the stage for the future.

The agreement we are about to debate is rooted in three principles:

First, fairness to business.

Giving them certainty about multi-billion dollar investments, and ensuring British Columbia is competitive in a global marketplace.

Equally important – maybe even more important – is the second principle:

ensuring British Columbians get a fair share of the benefits of the resource that is theirs. That includes revenue for government to reinvest in services – and jobs.

Third, we're protecting the environment.

As this agreement spells out: British Columbia will have

the cleanest LNG facilities in the world, with the highest benchmarks in the world.

Look how people are working together to make sure those principles being upheld.

Labour unions sat down with industry to hammer out a plan to ensure British Columbians were ready to be first in line for jobs.

First Nations sat down with industry for benefit agreements – that include jobs and opportunities like never before.

Small businesses from every corner of the province excited about the opportunities this industry will create through the LNG Buy BC Program.

These are British Columbians outside this house from all walks of life – coming together to bring this opportunity home.

I urge all members of this house to do the same.

Let's not stand in their way.

Let's work together to build the stage for a future we can all be proud of.

As legislators, we're about to gather inside the legislature here...

To debate a historic bill. A bill that will create a new industry...

And jobs for families to strengthen diverse economy.

This project alone could create 4,500 jobs.

To make sure all the benefits of LNG can be delivered to British Columbians...

We have to make sure they have the skills to be first in line for those jobs.

That's why I'm pleased to announce the Industry Trades Training Authority is providing \$75 million in new funding.

\$72 million will go to post-secondary institutions and training providers across BC.

And another \$3.5 million will go into a fund to help employers address demand for apprentices.

Let me put that into perspective: this program alone has already resulted in more than 21,000 new apprenticeship seats, and 5,000 Foundation seats.

This is part of ongoing work to create highly skilled workers in BC. Our goal with the Skills for Jobs Blueprint has been to ensure British Columbians are first in line for the jobs that are coming.

I want to say one thing about LNG and the debate in the legislature:

I hope it ratifies the agreement with PacificNorthWest LNG.

But even if they do, we still have a lot of work to do.

We're getting closer. A lot closer than a lot of people thought we'd ever get.

But we have to work just as hard, and we need to together.

What's interesting to me...

and young people like Justine McHale and James King, who you're about to meet...

Is that if we keep on this path – those jobs aren't decades away...

They're around the corner.

I also want to highlight and thank the business owners.

They're giving people like Justine and James a shot.

Without them, there are no apprentices.

There are some here today – like Susan and Bill Ridley of Ridley Construction.

I want to thank you for the difference they're going to make in these people's lives.

We need more people like you.

All this work is about setting the stage for people in skills training...

The thousands of people working to build careers in LNG so they can support families with good-paying, secure jobs.

There is so much potential – potential this generation is building today.

Thank you.

Thank you.

When leaders get together like this...
the most important thing we can do is make a real
difference for real people.

To get out of the way of people building their lives.

To make sure everyone has the opportunity to find the
right job and the best possible situation.

In BC, we've built a diverse economy with diverse markets
for export. That's the reason we've managed to survive
the global economic slowdown better than most.

B.C. is entering a time of incredible opportunity, not only
for British Columbians but for all Canadians.

By 2022, we expect the population of BC to grow by
500,000 – and one million job openings.

That's just seven years away.

That's why we've put in place the Skills for Jobs Blueprint – to ensure British Columbians have the training to be first in line for those jobs.

But even if every single British Columbian looking for work, or entering the workforce for the first time gets the right training...

It won't be enough.

We're going to have to look outside BC – to our fellow Canadians.

We need to keep breaking down barriers for people in this country.

It's the right thing to do for people looking for good-paying jobs...

And increases the available talent pool for investors.

I want to thank Premier Davis for helping lead the way on this – and I look forward to working with our counterparts to bring down more barriers for Canadians.

Thank you.

Thank you.

For two provinces as far apart as we are – BC and Nova Scotia have a lot in common.

- We're both committed to finding ways to grow our economies, create opportunity, and contribute to Confederation.
- We host Canada's Pacific and Atlantic fleets, respectively.
- And we both have long and proud traditions in shipbuilding and ship repair that stretch back before we became part of Canada.

In BC, we've built a diverse economy with diverse markets for export. That's the reason we've managed to survive the global economic slowdown better than most.

Shipbuilding and ship repair continues to play a big role.

And for young people looking for career options, shipbuilding is a good place to look.

It supports about 4,600 direct and indirect jobs in BC – and more than 4,000 will become available in the next five years.

B.C. is entering a time of incredible opportunity, not only for British Columbians but for all Canadians.

Canadians should continue to be first in line... not only for these jobs, but the hundreds of thousands of openings expected in the next few years.

Today's agreement is win-win.
Employers will have more access to skilled workers.
Workers will have more opportunities in a growing economy.

Because while today, shipbuilding and repair are front and centre...

Next, it's tech. After that, it's LNG.

Agriculture and aquaculture.

or forestry and Mining.

Canada is stronger when Nova Scotia and British Columbia thrive. Working together – creating opportunities from coast coast.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Quesnel has a long and rich history.

For thousands of years, the Lhtako Dene people thrived here.

More than a century ago, the first settlers and prospectors arrived.

One of the first came north from California.

He had left England to seek out his fortune in the 1849 gold rush, but didn't have much luck.

Billy Barker wasn't the first to find gold in the Cariboo – in fact, he staked his claim downriver from where they said all the gold was.

Billy didn't always make good decisions – he smoked like a chimney, and didn't save any of his money.

But choosing a site to search for gold was his best decision.

His claim was so successful – an entire town sprang up around it.

Barkerville may not have lasted – but 160 years later, Quesnel is thriving.

I think Billy would feel at home here. Because while much has changed...

The same hardworking, can-do pioneer spirit is alive and well.

That's what makes Billy Barker Days special. It's a celebration of the past – and of the very bright future in the Cariboo.

50 years ago, the people of Quesnel decided they needed to honour their western heritage.

Of course, the best way to do that was to hold a big, annual party.

I can't think of a bigger, better way to celebrate than a rodeo – and I would know.

Because even though I grew up in Burnaby, and represent West Kelowna...in Victoria, I have to ride a lot of bull.

Today, the Quesnel Rodeo is the centrepiece for thousands of British Columbians' summer calendars.

We have a man named Harold Hartley to thank for that.

50 years ago, Harold started the rodeo association, and did the hard work to build it up from scratch.

I would like to have been able to thank Harold in person – and congratulate him on building an amazing legacy.

But sadly...he passed away this year.

I know Harold was looking forward to celebrating 50 years. But as proud as he was of the rodeo...

I'm sure he'd be even more proud to see his family carrying on his legacy.

I have the privilege and the pleasure to have his granddaughter serve in my cabinet.

And if you know Coralee Oakes – you can see a lot of Harold in here.

- Unflinching optimism.
- Fiercely proud of her roots, and her home.

- And she knows that a lot of hard work goes into 8 seconds of success.

I want to thank the Hartley Family for inviting me to help celebrate 50 years of Harold's legacy.

It's a lot to celebrate. I can't wait to get started.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Sing Lim Yeo, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. chair

Clarence Cheng, CEO of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. – this is his last Walk before his retirement in August.

Each year, BC welcomes approximately 36,000 immigrants from around the world.

Some come for jobs or to start a business, some to join their families...

But most of all, they want to start a new and better life for themselves and their children.

They chose to make BC their new home – and BC is better for it.

A fresh start in a new place is exciting...but it can also be intimidating.

Since 1973, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. has been there for new Canadians...

To lend a helping hand and step forward as the face of B.C.

Part first impression, part welcome wagon, and part support network, SUCCESS has made a difference in thousands of people's lives.

I want to thank the staff and volunteers who help with the over 140,000 client-services provided by SUCCESS in B.C., Taipei, and Seoul.

Today, with every step the Dragon takes, we get closer to raising \$400,000 to keep helping people – and enriching all British Columbians.

–END–

Community Infrastructure Event
July 21, 2015
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Thank you.

It's a pleasure to welcome Mayor Lee Brain of Prince Rupert and Mayor Dave MacDonald of Port Edward.

They made the trip down to Victoria and their legislature to see history.

But for them, I think the real history is being made right at home.

It's being made in Prince Rupert and Port Edward, where LNG is already transforming communities.

It's creating the hope of young people staying to find work instead of moving south.

Building their lives close to home with good, family-supporting jobs and new opportunities for business.

This is already happening.
The real estate market is up.

In Prince Rupert, chamber of commerce membership has grown 46 per cent – just in the last year – due to new businesses starting up or moving there.

That's how history is being made – not by politicians debating, but people and businesses voting with their feet.

This history is more than two years in the making.

And in May, we took the biggest step forward so far, when we signed a Project Development Agreement with Pacific NorthWest LNG.

It would be a \$36 billion investment – by far the largest private sector investment in BC history.
This project alone would create more than 4,500 jobs.

There's more work to do. But in Prince Rupert and Port Edward – they've never been afraid of hard work.

And if we succeed in building a new LNG industry, it will be transformative. Not just for Port Ed and Prince Rupert, but communities across BC.

It will transform the relationship First Nations have with industry and with government, with agreements that will make them full partners in economic development.

It will transform the lives of thousands of British Columbians looking at careers in the skilled trades.

It will transform businesses across the province as they connect with LNG Buy BC.

And it will allow the provincial government to continue to provide the services British Columbians depend on – without raising taxes, or going into debt.

Ratification of the project development agreement will be the most significant milestone yet on the road towards creating a new industry in B.C.

It's important to recognize and celebrate milestones – which if you're Dancing Dave MacDonald, means dancing a jig.

But Dave would be the first to tell you: we'll continue to work together for the chance to transform thousands of lives...

For the better.

Thank you.

- I want to thank the Prime Minister for being here to see firsthand the impact of this year's wildfire season... and the resiliency of this community, where wildfires are increasingly an annual challenge.

- Most importantly, I want to recognize the incredible courage of the men and women putting their lives on the line to fight these fires to keep our communities safe.

- The Westside Road fire continues to pose a real threat:
 - Now roughly 400 hectares in size
 - 70 homes remain on evacuation order

- Across the province, we are dealing with an extremely challenging year:
 - Over 1,200 fires
 - Spent over \$140M fighting fires this season