

From: s.22

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 9:07 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: an invitation to meet with some ordinary British Columbians

Dear Premier:

So, you have been meeting with select groups of British Columbians who are willing to pay for the privilege. One media report mentioned a dinner party organized by SFU chancellor Anne Giardiani with an entry fee of \$10 000 a head. As the Alberta ethics commissioner pointed out when she investigated a similar event involving Premier Notley, events that allow wealthy citizens to buy time with a premier do not explicitly constitute a breach of ethics, but they certainly create "the perception that only a chosen few are being invited."

What really concerns me is what the head of your funding raising committee, Bob Rennie, had to say about the value of these events (apart from the dollars they add to the war chest). According to Mr. Rennie, they provide an opportunity for business leaders who support the government's policies to ensure that it stays in power. I am alarmed that you are spending time with Mr Rennie and his associates in the real estate industry. If they are controlling your view of the housing crisis in the Lower Mainland, then you are seriously out of touch with reality. The development and real estate industry is not at all interested in regulation. They do not want you to put the brakes on foreign investment. They have been doing very well out of the great sell-off of British Columbia and they don't want the provincial government to interfere.

I cannot pay \$10 000 to have dinner with you, but I would like to invite you to come to Vancouver and meet with some ordinary Vancouverites. We can give you a different perspective on what is happening in our communities. I'd like you to see neighbourhoods where all the old family homes have been replaced by empty mansions. I'd like you to see what you can get for \$1.2 million in Vancouver. I'd like you to see what a person can rent for \$1000 a month. I'd like you to meet some young professionals who are being priced out of our city and our local economy.

I believe that you do care about this province and that you want to make good decisions for our collective future. While I am sure you have an extremely busy schedule, I hope you can find the time to meet with some citizens who can't pay for the privilege.

s.22

OOP RESPONSE:

Thank you, ^{s.22} for your message. Your comments will be shared with the Premier so that she, too, is aware of them.

We do want to assure you that we are working very hard, on behalf of all British Columbians across the province, to build our economy and you might find the April 7th announcement by Moody's Investors' Service of interest:

Moody's affirms British Columbia's Aaa rating and stable outlook

Moody's Investors Service has affirmed British Columbia's AAA credit rating and stable outlook, thanks to the province's diverse economy and strong fiscal management, Finance Minister Michael de Jong announced today.

"B.C.'s continued highest rating shows that this province is on the right path," said de Jong. "We are controlling spending, attracting investment and diversifying markets for B.C.'s goods. Those elements will continue to bring the opportunities that create jobs and the continued economic growth that pays for health, education and social programs for British Columbians."

In affirming the AAA-stable rating – the highest possible – Moody's writes: "The AAA issuer and debt ratings assigned to British Columbia reflect the diverse and relatively strong provincial economy, track record of prudent fiscal management and a high degree of flexibility to accommodate revenue and expenditure pressures. These positive elements helped the province return to balanced budgets faster than most other Canadian provinces following the 2009 recession and the province has posted a plan of continued balanced budgets across its rating horizon."

The agency highlights British Columbia's plan for continued balanced budgets and says B.C.'s debt affordability remains manageable. Moody's also says that: "the large and diverse economy of British Columbia, along with a level of taxation that is at the lower end of Canadian provinces, represents an important credit positive for the AAA rating." While Canada typically sees over three-quarters of its exports flow to the U.S., it accounts for only about half of B.C.'s exports – a diversification of sectors and markets that makes B.C.'s economy less vulnerable to any shocks in specific sectors or trading partners.

"B.C. continues to stand out among provinces as an economic leader and an example of prudent fiscal management," said de Jong. "Our positive standing reflects the disciplined fiscal management British Columbians demand and the solid economic growth that British Columbians have achieved through their enterprising ingenuity."

Since November 2004, the Province has received seven credit rating upgrades. British Columbia continues to maintain the highest credit rating possible with Moody's, Standard and Poor's and Fitch. Standard & Poor's most recently affirmed its AAA rating in May 2015 following Budget 2015. The Dominion Bond Rating Service affirmed B.C.'s AA (high) credit rating in April 2015 and Fitch affirmed the Province's AAA rating in April 2015.

This is indeed encouraging news for British Columbia.

We have also noted your comment about foreign investment and want to assure you that we will share that with the Minister of Finance as well, on your behalf, and it will be included in those related discussions.

If you have any other concerns or recommendations to bring forward, we encourage you to keep in touch with us.

Again, thank you for writing and we hope this response is helpful.

s.22
From

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 4:37 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: Re: an invitation to meet with some ordinary British Columbians

Thank you for your message, even though it addresses none of the points in my letter.

s.22

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

From: s.22

Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2016 6:15 PM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: election ads

Do you have any idea how insulting it is to see tax dollars, public money, used to try re-elect a private political party? Why don't we use public funds for public good? Last election the BC government had access to donations from big oil and gas in Calgary. Perhaps they could pay for these election ads instead of the public of BC? We have the dubious reputation of having the best economy in the country and the highest child poverty rate. Perhaps now that we have a federal government that seems to want to work for Canadians, the people of BC will force a change in this province. The people in this riding are dealing with closing schools, loss of special needs services, horrible roads, lack of doctors, contaminated drinking water, etc. And we see the premier wasting our resources! The Liberal representative is going to have a very tough go of it in the election in this riding, I predict.

So disappointed and frustrated,
s.22

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 11:11 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject: selling access to senior political staff

I'm sure you've heard of the recent articles in the Globe and Mail decrying the practice in BC and Ontario of selling access to yourself and other senior political staff to businesses and unions in return for substantial political contributions.

This practice is strictly forbidden under federal government rules.

Why do you think it is legitimate practice at the provincial level?

What do you think of the optics of using this practice to raise funds?

Do you think this practice is any different than a hooker selling her time to a john?

s.22

From: s.22
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2016 8:54 AM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Cc: deJong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX
Subject: Vicki Huntington's proposed legislation

Ms. Clark

The stupidity of politicians often takes my breath away, but the stupidity you are displaying in the face of public opinion about the need to change the practice of political contributions in this province is of epic proportions.

Of course the unions and businesses are able to buy political favours! Would they continue to do it if it didn't work? Of course not! They are not stupid!

By continuing the practice of holding very expensive fundraising dinners for the elites, you are confirming that the provincial government is for sale to the highest bidder!

I suggest we install a big red light over the entrance to the legislature.

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, April 8, 2016 9:46 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Cc: deJong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX

Subject: selling access to senior politicians at exclusive, expensive dinners

Ms. Clark

It is wrong to sell access to yourself and senior officials by attending expensive, invitation only dinners.

There have been published reports of companies being told that they must attend if they wish to receive any business from the government.

Surely you can how bad the optics of this are.

How can the public be assured that there is no conflict of interest going on? They can't. There is no earthly way of assuring that there are no underhanded, under-the-table deals being made.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this most unseemly and smelly way of fundraising. Ban it outright.

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:19 AM

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX

Subject:

The article in the Globe and Mail is not flattering . I am beginning to wonder whom you are working for . By the way I do not support the NDP but I do not like what is occurring within the B"C" government one bit.

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:34 AM
To: 'Hunter, Justine'; Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: RE: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

Okay...so making sure Smarty has it. What you're really asking is does she support a move to real-time disclosure to and by Elections BC by political parties

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

From: Hunter, Justine [<mailto:JHunter@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:32 AM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: RE: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

Thanks. as I recall in the 2013 election, when I asked the ndp to produce a list of donors, they did. Has the premier spoken on this at all? What I would ask her if I was in Kelowna is, will she release names and donations of fundraising events in the name of open transparent government...

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

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX [<mailto:Ben.Chin@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: March-30-16 11:24 AM
To: Hunter, Justine; Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: Re: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

You bet...Smarty is with her

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.
From: Hunter, Justine
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:21 AM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

So if the premier does respond to questions, can you let me know asap?

Many thanks,
Jh

Justine Hunter
National Correspondent

The Globe and Mail

Work: 250.220.2718

Cell: s.22

Twitter: @Justine_Hunter

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 4:48 PM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX; Jillian Stead
Subject: Re: CBC request - statement on pay for access meetings

Statement from the party? Re: the party planning variety of events w Premier, from free to various levels of fundraising. Party follows all the rules and donors are publicly disclosed.

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 4:44 PM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: CBC request - statement on pay for access meetings

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeremy Allingham <jeremy.allingham@cbc.ca>
Date: March 30, 2016 at 4:43:52 PM PDT
To: "Smart, Stephen PREM:EX" <stephen.smart@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: CBC request - statement on pay for access meetings

Hi Stephen,

I hope you're well today.

I am curious if you have a statement on Mason's article about pay for access fundraisers. Please let me know.

(<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/pricey-meetings-with-clark-helping-fuel-bc-liberal-fundraising-machine/article29413577/>)

Thanks,

Jeremy

--

Jeremy Allingham
Story Producer
CBC Radio One
604-662-6467

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 4:13 PM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: Re: media request

Yes

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 4:10 PM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: media request

Party?

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bob Mackin, Jr." <bob.mackin@me.com>
Date: March 31, 2016 at 4:07:51 PM PDT
To: <Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: media request

Hi Stephen,

I'm working on a story for The Province about political fundraising and I notice the Premier commented today on her proposal for a real-time process of reporting donations.

To that end, could the Office of the Premier comment on her fundraising activities since late February? I am particularly interested in a comment about her attendance at a Feb. 23 BC Liberal fundraising dinner held at the Wall Centre, where two dozen donors from the real estate industry paid \$100,000 each to attend.

Sincerely,

Bob Mackin
604-982-9130

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 2:18 PM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: Re: any questions on fundraisers?

Yes it could. All to be worked out...but general idea is more frequently, more detail

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 2:04 PM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: any questions on fundraisers?

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hunter, Justine" <JHunter@globeandmail.com>
Date: March 31, 2016 at 2:01:25 PM PDT
To: "Smart, Stephen PREM:EX" <Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: any questions on fundraisers?

I did get it thanks. although I still have lots of questions.
Timeline? Will disclosure include any context such as how many people attended an individual event?

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

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX [<mailto:Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: March-31-16 2:00 PM
To: Hunter, Justine
Cc: Mason, Gary
Subject: Re: any questions on fundraisers?

Did you get that? I also sent you audio that I recorded.

Also, I requested that hold music be repeated for all future calls. :)

On Mar 31, 2016, at 1:43 PM, Hunter, Justine <JHunter@globeandmail.com> wrote:

Oh god. Wasn't she supposed to make a statement? s.22

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:25 AM
To: Mason, Gary
Subject: Re: Today

Hey Gary, just tried you. Let me know when you're free

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Mason, Gary
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 7:49 AM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: Today

Hey Ben,

Today, I'm writing a story on Liberal party fund-raising; the wild success the party has had raising dollars but also examining some of the means. Specifically, I wanted to get a comment re: the smaller events involving the Premier. For instance, SFU chancellor Anne Giardini recently hosted a small 10-person dinner at her home which the Premier attended. The price tag to get through the door was \$10,000. Fairly effective way to raise \$100 grand.

But I really want a comment on the optics. I realize it's legal, but it looks like people are buying access. I understand that PCC is not available until Wednesday but a quote from her office on this would be good. I'd like to have something in the story from you guys.

Let me know.

GM



Gary Mason | Columnist | The Globe and Mail

o: 604-948-2606 | c: s.22

| e: gmason@globeandmail.com

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Mason, Gary
Subject: Re: Comment

Hey, I appreciate that you're appreciative...but just doin my job. Happy Easter

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

Original Message
From: Mason, Gary
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 10:52 AM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Comment

Thanks, Ben. Sorry for disrupting your day. I appreciate you taking time out of it to give me something to insert in the story.

GM

Gary Mason | Columnist | The Globe and Mail
o: 604-948-2606 | c: s.22 | e: gmason@globeandmail.com

-----Original Message-----
From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX [<mailto:Ben.Chin@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: March-28-16 10:49 AM
To: Mason, Gary
Subject: Re: Comment

s.22 Here you go (from me):

The Premier meets with and hears from British Columbians from all parts of our province as she works to create jobs and opportunities in BC from a growing economy."

s.22

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark

250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Mason, Gary

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 10:25 AM

To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX

Subject: Comment

Hi Ben,

Don't mean to pester you but could you fire that quote off to me? Need to file this puppy fairly early today.

Thanks

GM

[cid:077583714@20012011-11E2]

Gary Mason | Columnist | The Globe and Mail

o: 604-948-2606 | c: S.22

| e: gmason@globeandmail.com<<mailto:gmason@globeandmail.com>>

Smart, Stephen PREM:EX

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Bob Mackin, Jr.
Subject: Re: media request

Here you go Bob. Transcript of the Premier's comments at her media avail in Williams Lake earlier today. Apologies for any typos...

—
Premier Clark: Can I add something for our friends in...? We've got people phoning in from Victoria and Vancouver who I don't think can ask questions. One of the things I know people down south are interested in is this story around donations that come to political parties. I want to make sure that everybody who's following that story knows I'm going to be asking our chief electoral officer to help us change the law in the province so that we can log donations in real time. People should be able to see when donations come in to political parties, not just at the end of the year, not just once a year; they should see it happening throughout the year. That's something we've never done in British Columbia before, but it would help, I think, make the process more transparent, and I think it would do a lot to add to the public's sense of confidence that political parties are doing the right thing for them.

> On Mar 31, 2016, at 4:28 PM, Bob Mackin, Jr. <bob.mackin@me.com> wrote:

>

> Yes, please send me the transcript.

>

> Gary Mason's column earlier this week included a quote from Ben Chin on a specific fundraising event. So, my questions, focussing on the Feb. 23 event, would fall within the scope of the Office of the Premier to comment.

>

>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 4:19 PM, Smart, Stephen PREM:EX <Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>>

>> Hi Bob,

>>

>> I don't actually have any of that information to provide. That would be a request for the party. I think your best bet would be to give them a call directly.

>>

>> That said, if you were not on the call today to hear what the Premier had to say on the matter. I am certainly happy to provide you with the transcript of it. Just let me know if that would be helpful.

>>

>> Best,

>>

>> Stephen

>>

>>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 4:07 PM, Bob Mackin, Jr. <bob.mackin@me.com> wrote:

>>>

>>> Hi Stephen,

>>>

>>> I'm working on a story for The Province about political fundraising and I notice the Premier commented today on her proposal for a real-time process of reporting donations.

>>>

Smart, Stephen PREM:EX

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Shane Woodford
Subject: Re: Donations disclosure

Damn. Literally about to take off from Quesnel. Here's what I sent Justine about the donations thing. She asked what info will be included in the disclosure, timing of events, etc...

Short answer is potentially it could include those aspects. They are going to be working through those details. But the idea is there will be more frequent disclosure with more detail.

But happy to call when I land if you'd like.

> On Mar 31, 2016, at 5:33 PM, Shane Woodford <Shane.Woodford@corusent.com> wrote:

>

> I am free now 5:22

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 2:48 PM, Smart, Stephen PREM:EX <Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>>

>> I'm heading to Quesnel. Msg me when you're free and I can provide a bit more info.

>>

>>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 2:46 PM, Shane Woodford <Shane.Woodford@corusent.com> wrote:

>>>

>>> I am kind of locked down at the moment I will reach out when I am free

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>

>>>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 2:43 PM, Smart, Stephen PREM:EX <Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Hey. Can I call you in about 20 mins?

>>>>

>>>>> On Mar 31, 2016, at 2:40 PM, Shane Woodford <Shane.Woodford@corusent.com> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Hey,

>>>>>

>>>>> We didn't get much out of the conference call to work with.

>>>>>

>>>>> Any idea on a timeline to get these changes in place?

>>>>>

>>>>> Would the changes also be expect to be adopted at the municipal level as well?

>>>>>

>>>>> Thanks,

>>>>>

>>>>> A

>>>>>

>>>>> Sent from my iPhone

Smart, Stephen PREM:EX

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 6:41 PM
To: Jeremy Allingham
Subject: Re: CBC request - statement on pay for access meetings

Hey Jeremy. So sorry for the delayed reply on this. This is more of a party issue than government. Have you reached out to them?

On Mar 30, 2016, at 4:44 PM, Jeremy Allingham <jeremy.allingham@cbc.ca> wrote:

Hi Stephen,

I hope you're well today.

I am curious if you have a statement on Mason's article about pay for access fundraisers. Please let me know.

(<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/pricey-meetings-with-clark-helping-fuel-bc-liberal-fundraising-machine/article29413577/>)

Thanks,

Jeremy

--

Jeremy Allingham
Story Producer
CBC Radio One
604-662-6467

Smart, Stephen PREM:EX

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:32 AM
To: 'Hunter, Justine'
Subject: RE: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

No problem at all!

From: Hunter, Justine [<mailto:JHunter@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:30 AM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: RE: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

Thanks – what I'm hoping is that you can let me know if anyone asks the question.. it will be late in the day I'm hoping I won't end up wading through 15 minutes of questions about invasive mussels only to find no one asked fundraising...

Many thanks!
jh

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX [<mailto:Stephen.Smart@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: March-30-16 11:28 AM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX; Hunter, Justine
Subject: RE: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

Hi Justine,

I'll definitely send you the scrum tape out of Kelowna. Should be around 3pm.

Thanks!

S.

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 11:24 AM
To: Hunter, Justine; Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: Re: looks like i am doing a story on political fundraising today

You bet...Smarty is with her

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250-588-3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Hunter, Justine

Smart, Stephen PREM:EX

From: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 8:54 AM
To: 'Hunter, Justine'
Subject: RE: where is the premier today?

Hi Justine,

Let me check into this and get right back to you!

S.

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

From: Hunter, Justine [<mailto:JHunter@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 8:39 AM
To: Smart, Stephen PREM:EX
Subject: where is the premier today?

Good morning Stephen.

I am chasing her on Mason's column re: fundraising...

thanks,
jh

Sent from my iPad

>