

Premier's Office Budget

- The total budget for the Office of the Premier is \$8.998 million for 2016/17.
- This is decrease of \$30,000 over 2015/16 – correction to remove ESM allocation that was double-counted in budget
- 3-year allocations for Economic Stability Mandate have been allocated to ministry budgets as appropriate to implement required compensation changes.

ESM increase effective April 2016 (0.5%) and February 2017 (0.1%) – benefits reduced to 24.3%

2015/16	\$9,028
2016/17	\$8,998
2017/18	\$9,040
2018/19	\$9,055

ESM covers:

Premier's Office

(OIC support staff, scheduling/correspondence staff – 9 people)

Executive Operations

(Schedule A staff in Cab Ops – 3 people)

IGRS

(Schedule A and GEU staff – 7 people)

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

The mission of the Office of the Premier is to provide leadership across government and Crown agencies to ensure timely decision making and effective service delivery, supported by the transparency and accountability of government practices.

SUMMARY

(\$000)

	Estimates 2015/16 ¹	Estimates 2016/17
VOTED APPROPRIATION		
Vote 10 — Office of the Premier.....	9,028	8,998
OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>9,028</u>	<u>8,998</u>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ²	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS ³	—	—
REVENUE COLLECTED FOR, AND TRANSFERRED TO, OTHER ENTITIES ⁴	—	—

NOTES

¹ For comparative purposes, figures shown for the 2015/16 operating expenses; capital expenditures; loans, investments and other requirements; and revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities are restated to be consistent with the presentation of 2016/17 Estimates. Schedule A presents a detailed reconciliation of the restatement of operating expenses and capital expenditures.

² Details of capital expenditures are presented in Schedule C.

³ Details of loans, investments and other requirements are presented in Schedule D.

⁴ Details of revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities are presented in Schedule E.

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
SUMMARY BY CORE BUSINESS
(\$000)

	2015/16	2016/17 ESTIMATES		
OPERATING EXPENSES	Net	Gross	External Recoveries	Net
Core Business				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat.....	2,463	3,153	(700)	2,453
Executive and Support Services.....	6,565	6,546	(1)	6,545
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....	9,028	9,699	(701)	8,998

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	Net	Disbursements	Receipts	Net
Core Business				
Executive and Support Services.....	1	1	—	1
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES.....	1	1	—	1

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

VOTED DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2015/16	Estimates 2016/17
--	----------------------	----------------------

VOTE 10 — OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

This vote provides for the programs and operations described in the voted appropriations under the following core businesses: Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat and Executive and Support Services.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT

Voted Appropriation

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat.....	2,463	2,453
--	-------	-------

Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for management and administrative support for the Executive Council (Cabinet) in the development and coordination of advice, policy, negotiations, issues management, and public consultation relating to federal-provincial, interprovincial, and international relations initiatives. This sub-vote includes support for the Premier and Cabinet participation in First Ministers' Conferences, Premiers' Conferences, Joint Cabinet Meetings with neighbouring jurisdictions, and ministerial conferences. This sub-vote manages the Canada-British Columbia Co-operation Agreement on Official Languages. This sub-vote also provides for the Office of Protocol; and for costs of official ceremonies, programs for visiting dignitaries, government-hosted functions, and government honours and awards by authority of the *Provincial Symbols and Honours Act*. Costs may be recovered from ministries; federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments; and other entities for services described within this sub-vote.

EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Voted Appropriations

Premier's Office.....	3,041	3,033
Executive Operations.....	3,524	3,512
	6,565	6,545

Voted Appropriations Description: This sub-vote provides for the office of the Premier and includes salaries, benefits, allowances, and operating expenses for the Premier and staff; the management of cross-government issues and corporate planning; funding for cross-government and other initiatives that support the government's mandate; support of the Executive Council, including government administration, and Executive Council Committees, as well as the salaries, benefits, allowances, and operating expenses for the deputy ministers' offices; salaries, benefits, and other expenses incurred in providing policy, planning, and operational support to the Executive Council and its committees; and for the planning and coordination of legislative priorities. Costs may be recovered from ministries, Crown agencies, and other organizations within government for services described within this sub-vote.

VOTE 10 — OFFICE OF THE PREMIER	9,028	8,998
---------------------------------	-------	-------

GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION

Salaries and Benefits	7,918	8,000
Operating Costs	1,466	1,505
Government Transfers	521	546
Other Expenses	311	294
Internal Recoveries	(487)	(646)
External Recoveries	(701)	(701)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....	9,028	8,998



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
(\$000)

VOTE 10 Office of the Premier

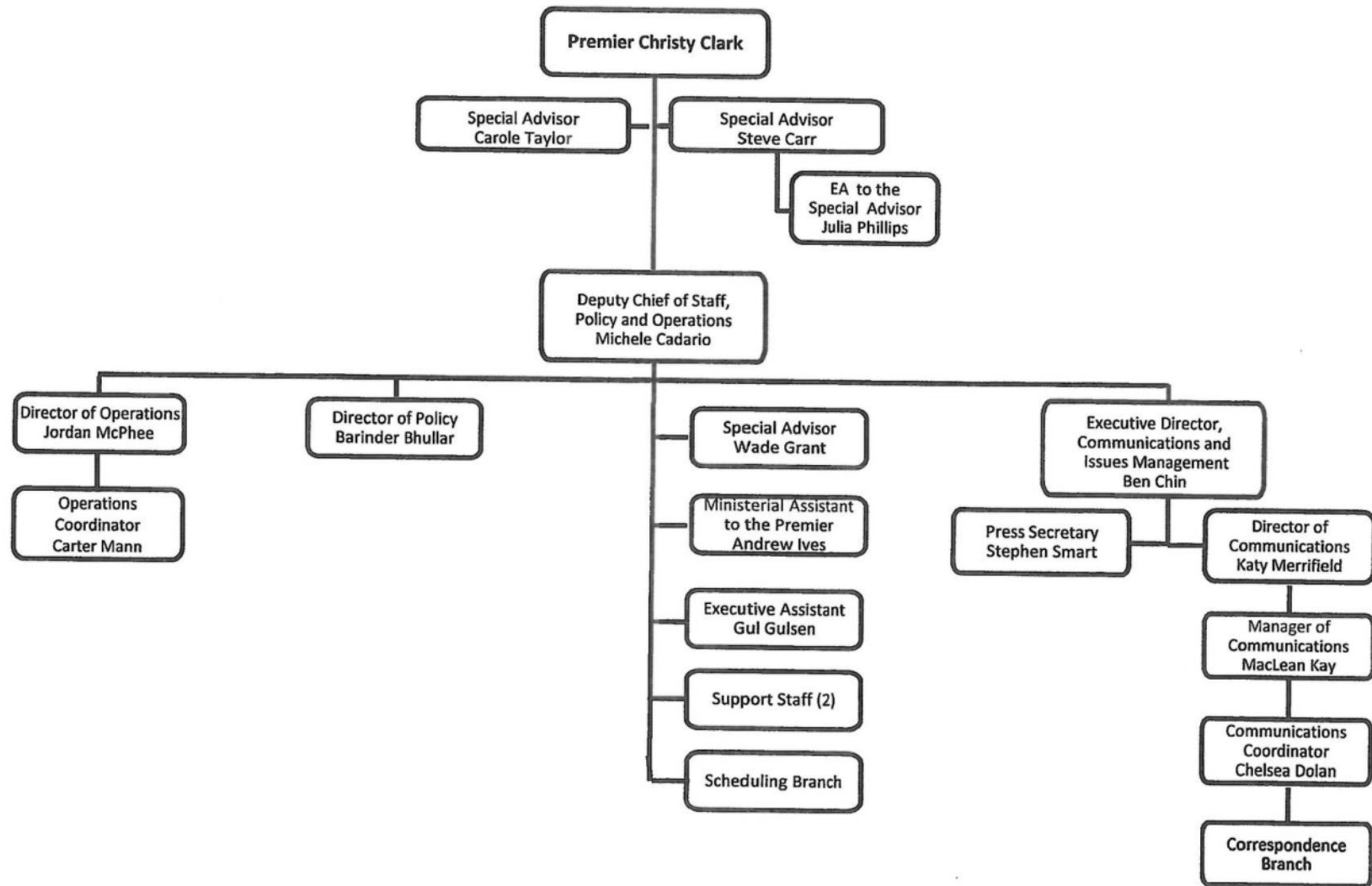
Description	Total 2015/16 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	2,463	2,945	9	504	—	2,558	—	71	8	15	42	545	—	—	1
Executive and Support Services	6,565	4,293	30	1,101	108	5,442	—	334	56	51	101	221	—	—	5
Premier's Office	3,041	1,956	5	521	108	2,590	—	222	—	10	37	76	—	—	—
Executive Operations	3,524	2,247	25	580	—	2,852	—	112	56	41	64	145	—	—	5
Total	9,028	6,248	39	1,605	108	8,000	—	405	64	66	143	766	—	—	6

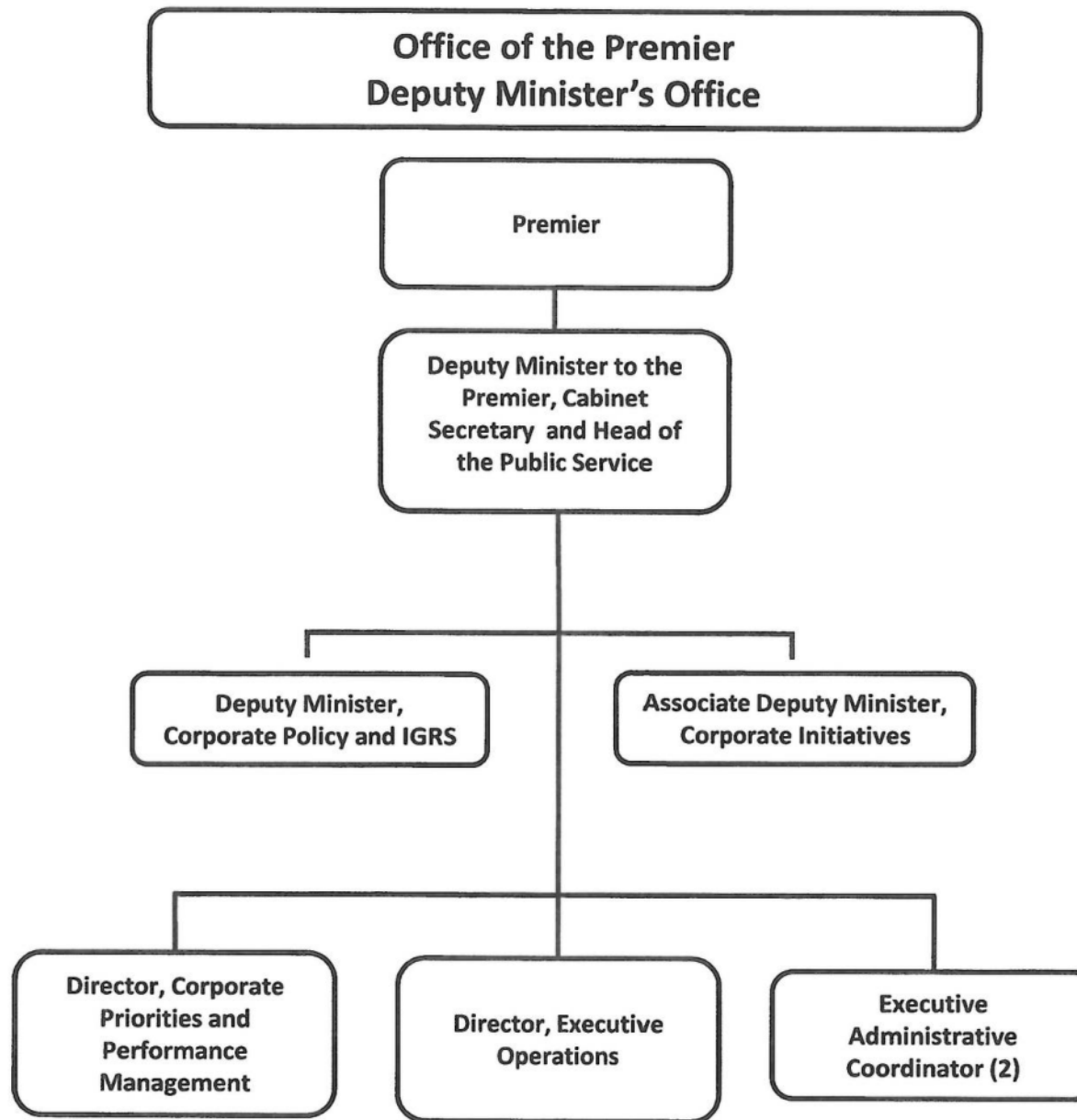
70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2016/17 Operating Expenses
5	—	—	6	693	450	—	95	545	—	—	2	2	—	(645)	(645)	—	(700)	(700)	2,453
25	—	12	7	812	1	—	—	1	—	—	292	292	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	—	(1)	6,545
1	—	2	—	348	—	—	—	—	—	—	95	95	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,033
24	—	10	7	464	1	—	—	1	—	—	197	197	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	—	(1)	3,512
39	—	12	13	1,505	451	—	95	546	—	—	294	294	—	(646)	(646)	(1)	(700)	(701)	8,998

Salaries and Benefits	50	Base Salaries
	51	Supplementary Salary Costs
	52	Employee Benefits
	54	Legislative Salaries and Indemnities
Operating Costs	55	Boards, Commissions and Courts – Fees and Expenses
	57	Public Servant Travel
	59	Centralized Management Support Services
	60	Professional Services
	63	Information Systems - Operating
	65	Office and Business Expenses
	67	Informational Advertising and Publication
	68	Statutory Advertising and Publications
	69	Utilities, Materials and Supplies
	70	Operating Equipment and Vehicles
	72	Non-Capital Roads and Bridges
	73	Amortization

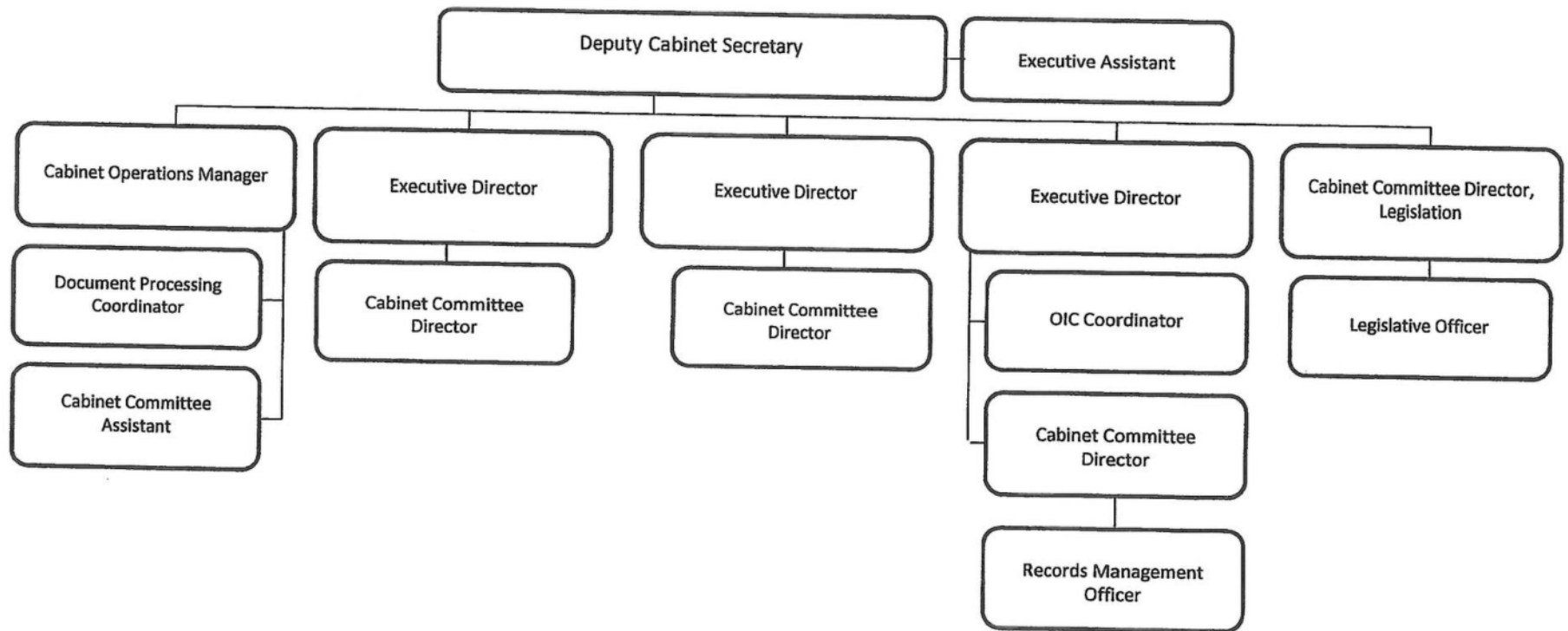
	75	Building Occupancy Charges
Government Transfers	77	Transfers -Grants
	79	Transfers -Entitlements
	80	Transfers – Agreements
Other Expenses	81	Transfers Between Votes and Special Accounts
	83	Interest on the Public Debt
	85	Other Expenses
Internal Recoveries	86	Recoveries Between Votes and Special Accounts
	88	Recoveries Within the Consolidated Revenue Fund
External Recoveries	89	Recoveries Within the Government Reporting Entity
	90	Recoveries External to the Government Reporting Entity

Office of the Premier



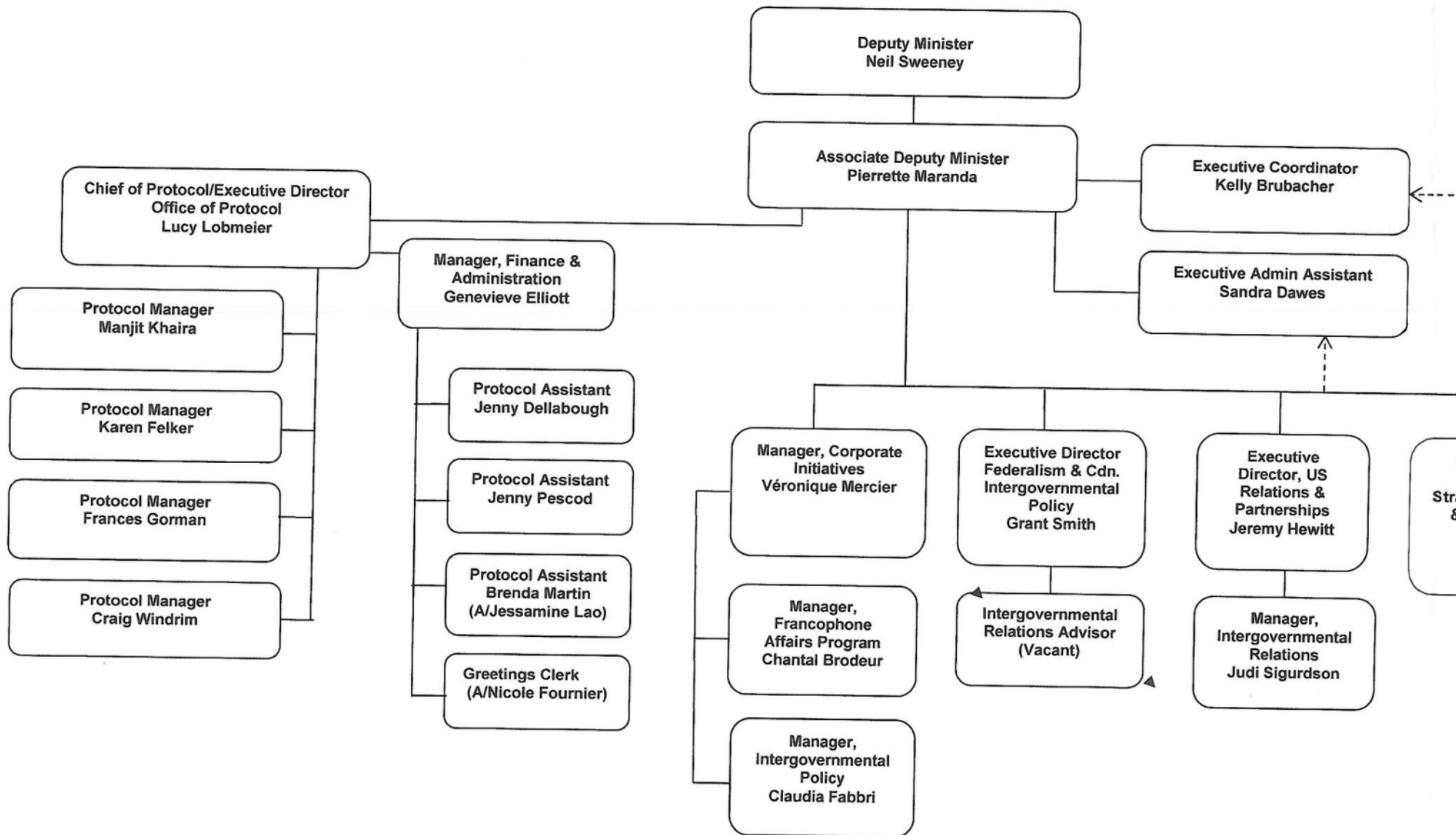


Cabinet Operations Organization Chart



March 4, 2015

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
Organization Chart (April 25, 2016)**



Premier's Office (Political)

The Premier's political office (the office) is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Premier, coordinating cross-government communications and issues management and developing the strategic objectives of government.

The office also serves Executive Council by ensuring Ministers' communications and issues management strategies are well-developed and coordinated across government.

The office plays a major role in assisting Ministers with the development of new policy, crisis management and stakeholder relations.

In conjunction with the House Leader, the office assists in the management of all aspects of the legislative session including developing and briefing Cabinet on the daily session strategy. The office is responsible for all hiring and human resource issues for political staff across government.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Special Advisor reports directly to the Premier.

ROLE:

The Special Advisor is the senior political advisor to government responsible for providing strategic advice to the Premier and Executive Council to advance government's policy and legislative objectives.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordination and development of government policy.
- Developing strategic government objectives.
- Overseeing implementation of government's strategic objectives.
- Ensuring the Premier is informed and represented in decision making throughout government.
- Maintaining and developing relationships with major government stakeholders.
- Overseeing cross-government issues management.
- Providing advice on the hiring of political staff across government.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Deputy Chief of Staff reports to the Premier.

ROLE:

The Deputy Chief of Staff is a senior political advisor to government responsible for providing strategic advice to the Premier and Executive Council to advance government's policy and legislative objectives.

Responsible for coordinating key policy initiatives for the Premier across government; provides strategic advice for government's policy and legislative objectives. As well, the Deputy Chief of Staff is responsible for the operational management of the Premier's Office, Premier's scheduling and human resources for the Premier's Office and Chiefs of Staff in Ministerial Offices.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Availability to the Premier, Executive Council, Ministerial staff, and MLAs to provide advice and manage policy issues across government.
- Coordinates policy development process vis-à-vis Cabinet Operations and Ministers' offices.
- Liaison with the Deputy Minister to the Premier and Deputy Minister, Corporate Policy on policy issues.
- Monitor and provide advice on Cabinet committees as necessary and attend Cabinet as required.
- Work in collaboration with the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management on announcements and corporate communication of overall government policy.
- Coordinate research and information in support of issues management, policy and communications priorities.
- Consult and engage with external stakeholders on policy initiatives as necessary.
- Oversees the hiring of all Chiefs of Staff to the Ministers, Ministerial Assistants and Executive Assistants in Ministers' Offices

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Executive Assistant to the Special Advisor reports to the Special Advisor.

ROLE:

Provides support to the Special Advisor in managing stakeholders, government officials and caucus/Cabinet members. Serves as a primary point of contact for internal and external relations on all matters pertaining to the Special Advisor. Manages and maintains the Special Advisor's calendar of appointments, meetings, events and travel arrangements.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manages the Special Advisor's schedule, travel expenses, correspondence and information technology tools.
- Attend and coordinate meetings with Special Advisor, or in place of the Special Advisor, as required.
- Responsible for keeping Special Advisor informed of major projects and political developments that arise.

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, POLICY & OPERATIONS**

GUL GULSEN

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff.

ROLE:

Provides support to the Deputy Chief of Staff in managing stakeholders, government officials and caucus/Cabinet members. Serves as a primary point of contact for internal and external relations on all matters pertaining to the Deputy Chief of Staff. Manages and maintains the Deputy Chief of Staff's calendar of appointments, meetings, events and travel arrangements.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manages the Deputy Chief of Staff's schedule, travel expenses, correspondence and information technology tools.
- Attend and coordinate meetings with Deputy Chief of Staff, or in place of the Deputy Chief of Staff, as required.
- Responsible for special projects as assigned.
- General administration support for Premier's Vancouver Office including both Premiers' staff and visiting Ministers.
- Provides back up phone coverage as required.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Ministerial Assistant to the Premier reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy and Operations.

ROLE:

The Ministerial Assistant to the Premier is responsible for assisting the Premier in performing her day-to-day responsibilities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Working with the Deputy Chief of Staff, provides information to the Premier regarding her daily schedule and events.
- Travel with the Premier to meetings and events.
- Provide information to Special Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff in the Premier's Office to ensure follow-up on all Premier's meetings.
- Provide all services and duties, as required, to ensure successful Premier's travel and follow-up.
- Complete projects as requested by the Premier, Special Advisor or Deputy Chief of Staff.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

JORDAN MCPHEE

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Director of Operations reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy and Operations.

ROLE:

Responsible for working with the Deputy Chief of Staff in the operations of the Premier's Vancouver and Victoria offices.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinates announcements and events working with the Deputy Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management.
- Provides support and direction to the events coordinators on the Premier's touring and special events.
- Liaises with the Premier's Protection Detail.
- Complete projects as requested by the Special Advisor or Deputy Chief of Staff.
- Briefs the Premier, Ministers and event dignitaries on the parameters, logistics and protocol requirements of each event, as required.
- Travel with the Premier to meetings and events, as required.
- Responsible for the operations of the Premier's Vancouver and Victoria offices including the recruitment, hiring and ongoing review of staff.
- In consultation with the Special Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff, responsible for hiring of all Chiefs of Staff to Ministers, Ministerial Assistants and Executive Assistants in Ministers' offices.
- Working with the Deputy Chief of Staff, responsible for human resources management, training and professional development of all Chiefs of Staff to Ministers.
- Responsible for the Premier's touring and special events.
- Works closely with scheduling branch to oversee the Premier's day to day movements.

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

CARTER MANN

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Operations Coordinator reports to the Director of Operations.

ROLE:

Supports the Director of Operations in the management of day-to-day activities by Ministers and the Premier as dictated by government priorities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Strategic, long-term communications planning
- Manage scheduling, planning of government events across Minister's offices to ensure consistency with messaging and priorities
- Provide logistical and communications support for the Premier's public events including organizing travel
- Liaise with stakeholders, both within and external to government, relevant to key government priorities and initiatives
- Work with GCPE and event coordinators to execute on communications and media events
- Other duties as assigned

SPECIAL ADVISOR

CAROLE TAYLOR

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Special Advisor reports directly to the Premier.

ROLE:

Responsible for providing strategic advice on key government initiatives via consultation with external stakeholders. (Part-time role with remuneration at \$1 per year)

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide advice to the Premier on key government initiatives and policies
- Provide expert advice on economic matters to the Premier and Cabinet (as required)
- Liaise with BC's major job-creating industries
- Consult and engage with external stakeholders on government initiatives
- Provide assistance in coordinating strategic policy initiatives for the Premier across government

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Special Advisor reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy and Operations.

ROLE:

Responsible for providing strategic advice to the Premier's Office on, but not limited to, issues regarding First Nations and Aboriginal groups in British Columbia.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide strategic advice for the Premier and Premier's Office on government files.
- Provide technical support to the Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of staff, where required.
- Work with the Chief of Staff to facilitate, create and sustain strong relationships with Aboriginal leaders.
- Work with the Chief of Staff to strengthen existing relationships with Aboriginal leaders.
- Under the direction of the Chief of Staff, meet with Aboriginal leadership to facilitate and strengthen relationships with their constituents.
- Organize and coordinate activities, meetings, events and stakeholder engagement.
- Liaise with various ministry staff and provide input and advice regarding key Aboriginal issues.
- Facilitate strong and effective communication between the Office of the Premier and Aboriginal leadership.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff.

ROLE:

The Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management is responsible for managing communications work for the Premier, maintaining and enhancing the relationship with media, supervising issues management across government and overseeing the work of the Correspondence Branch in the Office of the Premier. The Executive Director manages all staff in the communications department.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Managing the work of the communications, issues management and correspondence units in the Premier's Office working appropriately and collaboratively with Ministers and caucus staff.
- Develop and implement communications coordination related to the Premier. This includes:
 - Coordination of news releases, backgrounders, columns, op-eds, letters to the editor, speech notes, ministerial statements, legislative introductions, special acknowledgements, video and radio scripts, quotes, messages, media scans and written publications;
 - Ensuring all proactive communication materials are appropriately structured and communicated to the media; and
 - Media relations.
- Overall responsibility for maintaining and enhancing the working relationship between the Office of the Premier and members of the Legislative Press Gallery and other provincial media.
- Responsible for keeping the Office of the Premier apprised of emerging issues and events that are of potential interest to provincial media.
- Responsible for ensuring that all media availabilities, scrums and press conferences are conducted in an appropriate manner.
- Responsible for working with Government Communications and Public Engagement staff to ensure that all information that specifically relates to the Office of the Premier is coordinated and communicated in an appropriate manner.
- When deemed necessary, responsible for travelling with the Premier to meetings and events where media may be present.
- Overall responsibility for issues management. This includes:
 - Leading and coordinating the work of briefing the Premier and Ministers for the Legislature.
 - Ensuring that emerging issues are properly researched and responded to in an accurate, timely and appropriate manner.
- Overseeing the work of the Correspondence Branch to ensure transparency and accurate, timely and appropriate responses to enquiries from the public.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Director of Communications reports to the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management.

ROLE:

Executes and operationalizes proactive communications strategies focused on targeted and strategic corporate priorities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Devise and execute quarterly reports outlining a clear strategy including but not limited to earned, social, ethnic, regional and paid media that reflects the vision and narrative approved by the Executive Director, Communications and Issues Management.
- Work closely with Ministry communications staff to ensure communications strategies and materials achieve government's goals and objectives, provide analytical and strategic political input on communications strategies, speeches and correspondence.
- Work closely with the Director of Operations to approve communications plans for Ministry and PO-led events as well as ensure government news releases reflect corporate priorities.
- Interface with senior staff in the BC Government Caucus to ensure MLA's have appropriate communications material as support for significant government announcements and initiatives.
- Working with the Manager of Communications, approve speeches, quotes, statements and correspondence for the Premier.
- Complete projects as assigned by the Executive Director, Communications and Issues Management.
- Responsible for the Premier's Correspondence Branch.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Policy Director reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff.

ROLE:

Responsible for coordinating strategic policy initiatives for the Premier across government; provides strategic advice for government's policy and legislative objectives.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Available to the Premier, Executive Council, Ministerial staff, and MLAs to provide advice and manage policy issues across government.
- Coordinates strategic policy initiatives vis a vis Cabinet operations and Ministers' offices
- Monitor and provide advice on Cabinet committees as necessary.
- Work in collaboration with the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management on announcements and corporate communications of overall government policy.
- Coordinate research and information in support of issues management, policy and communications priorities.
- Consult and engage with external stakeholders on policy initiatives as necessary.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Press Secretary reports to the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management.

ROLE:

The Press Secretary is responsible for maintaining and enhancing the relationship with the media and ensuring the Premier and Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management are aware of emerging issues.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- In conjunction with the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management, maintain and enhance the working relationship between the Office of the Premier and members of the Legislative Press Gallery and other provincial media.
- Responsible for ensuring that all media availabilities, scrums and press conferences are conducted in an appropriate manner.
- Responsible for keeping the Premier and the Communications team apprised of emerging issues and events that are of potential interest to provincial media.
- Responsible for working with the Communications Director and Government Communications and Public Engagement staff to ensure that all information that specifically relates to the Office of the Premier is coordinated and communicated in an appropriate manner.

MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS

MACLEAN KAY

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Manager of Communications reports to the Director of Communications.

ROLE:

Responsible for supporting the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management and the Director of Communications by providing written materials and participating in the development of communications products.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Write, edit, and coordinate distribution of speech notes, news releases, backgrounders, ministerial statements, legislative introductions and special acknowledgements, columns, op-eds, letters to the editor, video and radio scripts, quotes, messages, media scans and other written communications support materials for the Premier as required.
- Coordinate Premier's videos and scripts as directed by the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management and in conjunction with Government Communications and Public Engagement staff.
- Working with the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management, manage the Premier's online presence.
- Work closely with the Communications Coordinator

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Communications Coordinator reports to the Director of Communications

ROLE:

Responsible for supporting the Manager of Communications by providing written materials and participating in the development of communications products.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist the Communications Manager write, edit, and coordinate distribution of speech notes, news releases, backgrounders, ministerial statements, legislative introductions and special acknowledgements, columns, op-eds, letters to the editor, video and radio scripts, quotes, messages, media scans and other written communications support materials for the Premier as required.
- Coordinate Premier's videos and scripts as directed by the Executive Director of Communications and Issues Management and in conjunction with Government Communications and Public Engagement staff.
- Work with the Manager of Communications to manage the Premier's online presence.

MINISTER'S STAFF SALARY SCHEDULE
ANNUAL, BI-WEEKLY AND HOURLY RATES

Classification Title	Salary Plan	Salary Grade	Class Code	Step	Annual	Monthly	Bi-weekly	Hourly
BARGAINING UNIT CODE = 0								
SALARY RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 21, 2006								
Band A	VAR	MS1	023031	1*	60,000.17	5,000.01	2,299.80	32.8543
				2*	63,000.18	5,250.02	2,414.79	34.4970
				3	66,150.20	5,512.52	2,535.53	36.2219
				4	70,875.24	5,906.27	2,716.64	38.8091
				5	74,000.21	6,166.68	2,836.42	40.5203
				6	77,000.22	6,416.69	2,951.41	42.1630
				7	80,325.04	6,693.75	3,078.85	43.9836
				8	83,000.24	6,916.69	3,181.39	45.4484
				9	85,050.07	7,087.51	3,259.96	46.5709
				10	89,775.11	7,481.26	3,441.07	49.1581
				11	94,500.14	7,875.01	3,622.18	51.7454
<i>*New steps added May 29, 2015</i>								
Band B	VAR	MS2	023032	1	51,300.17	4,275.01	1,966.33	28.0904
				2	54,720.22	4,560.02	2,097.42	29.9631
				3	58,140.01	4,845.00	2,228.50	31.8357
				4	61,560.05	5,130.00	2,359.59	33.7084
				5	64,980.10	5,415.01	2,490.68	35.5811
				6	68,400.14	5,700.01	2,621.77	37.4539
Band C	VAR	MS3	023033	1	125,000.10	10,416.68	4,791.24	68.4463
				2	135,000.13	11,250.01	5,174.54	73.9220
				3	146,361.23	12,196.77	5,610.01	80.1430
				4	156,118.11	13,009.84	5,983.99	85.4856
				5	165,875.25	13,822.94	6,357.98	90.8283
				6	175,633.17	14,636.10	6,732.00	96.1714
				7	185,390.04	15,449.17	7,105.98	101.5140
				8	195,148.22	16,262.35	7,480.01	106.8573
Band E	VAR	MS5	023035	1	85,000.24	7,083.35	3,258.05	46.5436
				2	90,000.00	7,500.00	3,449.69	49.2813
				3	95,000.01	7,916.67	3,641.34	52.0191
				4	100,000.03	8,333.34	3,832.99	54.7570
				5	105,000.04	8,750.00	4,024.64	57.4949
				6	110,000.05	9,166.67	4,216.29	60.2327
				7	115,000.07	9,583.34	4,407.94	62.9706
				8	120,000.08	10,000.01	4,599.59	65.7084
				9	125,000.10	10,416.68	4,791.24	68.4463
				10	130,000.11	10,833.34	4,982.89	71.1841
SALARY RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 24, 2014:								
Administrative Coordinator	MGT	ADA	150005					
% of Management Level 01			90.26%	1	53,996.76	4,499.73	2,069.69	29.5670
				2*	55,336.71	4,611.39	2,121.05	30.3007
				3	56,401.67	4,700.14	2,161.87	30.8839
				4*	57,490.38	4,790.87	2,203.60	31.4800
				5	58,591.09	4,882.59	2,245.79	32.0827
				6	59,823.55	4,985.30	2,293.03	32.7576
<i>*New steps added May 29, 2015</i>								
Special Advisor	VAR	NFS	023030	This code is for employees hired under Section 15(1)(b) of the Public Service Act. Salary and benefits for individual employees are dictated by their OIC.				

Deputy Ministers

- British Columbians are served by a team of dedicated and talented deputy ministers and senior public service leaders.
- We currently have 26 deputy ministers and 12 associate deputy ministers.
- As part of our Open Government focus, all Deputy Minister remuneration and travel expenses can be found on the Open Information website (<http://www.openinfo.gov.bc.ca/>)
- Salaries for Deputy Ministers, Associate Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers include a holdback component based on performance.
- The performance holdback system was introduced in 2006. For fiscal 2014/15 the average was 98%.
- Salary holdbacks are included in the total compensation for all Deputy Ministers in Public Accounts.
- Information on specific individuals and what they received in holdbacks is a personnel matter and we will not discuss that in detail.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Short Answer:

- Today in BC we have 20 proposed LNG export projects, 30 investment partners, and investments of \$20 billion to date.
- I have been clear on our priorities: lasting benefits for the British Columbians who own this resource, and certainty for proponents so that BC is competitive with the world.
- We'll keep working hard with proponents, communities, and First Nations to seize this generational opportunity.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Quick Facts:

- Today there are 20 LNG proposals in BC at various stages of development. Over 30 investment partners are involved.
- To date, we estimate over \$20 billion has been invested by industry to further B.C.'s LNG opportunity.
- A total of eighteen (18) LNG proposals have export approval from Canada's National Energy Board.
- The province has issued environmental assessment certificates for four (4) LNG facilities.
- Four (4) pipeline proposals supporting LNG have received a certificate.
- If five LNG plants are built in B.C., it could create a total investment of \$175 billion and increase provincial GDP by \$1 trillion.
- It would also create up to 100,000 jobs:
 - 58,700 direct and indirect construction jobs
 - 23,800 permanent direct and indirect jobs for operations
 - Thousands of induced jobs as a result of households having more income.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Key Messages:

- A new LNG industry will be transformative. Not just for Port Ed and Prince Rupert, but for 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.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Actions to date:

- **Certainty:** Brought in a competitive LNG income tax framework that offers certainty for companies and fairness for British Columbians.
- **Stewardship:** Brought in legislation to make BC's LNG export facilities the cleanest in the world.
- **Competitiveness:** Successfully lobbied the federal government to increase the capital cost allowance for LNG export facilities.
- **Certainty:** Working on project development agreements with PNW, AltaGas and Woodfibre proponents to provide certainty as they work towards final investment decisions.
- **Partnerships:** 62 Pipeline Benefit Agreements with 29 of the 32 First Nations, including:
 - Moricetown Band
 - Yekooche First Nation
 - Kitselas First Nation
 - Gitxaala First Nation
 - Wet'suwet'en First Nation
 - Skin Tyee First Nation
 - Nee Tahi Buhn Indian Band
 - Nisga'a Nation
 - Lake Babine Nation

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Progress and Accomplishments:

- The Province has provided proponents with certainty to move forward with final investment decisions.
- Pacific NorthWest LNG has already announced their conditional final investment decision.
- BC's LNG industry is poised to result in some of the largest private-sector investments in British Columbia's history, stimulating economic activity across the province like never before.
- To date, we estimate over \$20 billion has been invested by industry to further BC's LNG opportunity.
- In total, there are 20 LNG proposals in BC at various stages of development.
 - Eighteen (18) of these proposals came forward after we initiated BC LNG Strategy in 2012.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Cleanest LNG Facilities:

- Our government promised the cleanest LNG facilities in the world, and that is exactly what we're delivering.
- By developing the cleanest LNG facilities in the world, we will build on our proud track record of growing the economy while protecting our environment.
- Climate change is a global issue. By exporting natural gas, B.C. will supply growing markets with the cleanest-burning fossil fuel.
- The facilities built here will address greenhouse gases to a higher standard than any other LNG facilities in the world.
- We will be a global leader in clean LNG because we will encourage further investment to reduce emissions in the upstream.
- Where natural gas replaces other fossil fuels, lower emissions and improved global air quality will result.
- And we'll protect the environment here at home with air quality regulations that protect the health of our communities.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

First Nations and LNG:

- LNG continues to present a generational opportunity for all British Columbians – both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal alike.
- 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 62 pipeline agreements with 29 of 32 nations along the proposed natural gas pipeline routes.
- This also shows our collective ability to work in partnership through all levels of challenging negotiations in British Columbia.
- First Nations, industry, and government need to work together to develop this time-limited opportunity.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

LNG Market – Contracts & Prices:

Topic: Details and status of the global LNG market.

- The LNG marketplace is very competitive. British Columbia is now a contender in this global industry.
- Demand for LNG is met through long-term contract sales and by transactions on the spot market.
- The BC Government is not directly involved in the contract discussions between suppliers and prospective buyers -and we have no control over the global energy market.
- Where the Province has control, we have provided certainty for investment. We have put legislation in place that ensures B.C. is a competitive jurisdiction to build and operate LNG facilities.
- Ultimately, LNG proponents will make their final decisions based on a variety of factors, specifically long-term economics.
- LNG projects planned for BC are progressing.
- A significant milestone was reached last year, when Pacific NorthWest LNG announced their conditional final investment decision.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

February 9, 2016

Background:

The Ministry of Natural Gas Development (MNGD) regularly monitors and analyzes global LNG markets around the world.

Liquefied natural gas is traded by long-term contract or through the spot market - sometimes a combination of the two. Many long-term contracts are linked to the global price of oil which has declined by 66 percent since mid-2014.

As of December 2015, average Asian spot LNG was trading at US\$7.28/mmbtu (one million British thermal units) which is much lower than it has been over the past few years. Spot pricing for LNG in Asia remains well below the average price that was recorded in 2014 (\$13.94).

MNGD receives spot-price details from leading market analysts, including Argus Media, Platts and Wood Mackenzie.

- Argus provides price assessments, business intelligence and market data for the global energy and commodities markets.
- Platts publishes news, commentary, market data, analysis, and daily price assessments that are widely used as benchmarks in global energy markets.
- Wood Mackenzie provides 'commercial intelligence for the energy, metals and mining industries as well as objective analysis and advice on assets, companies and markets'.

British Columbia's LNG proponents are primarily marketing B.C.'s natural gas to the northeast Asia market. LNG spot prices for this market have been declining, with some fluctuation. Some LNG proponents confirmed with the Ministry of Natural Gas Development that they are likely to only contract through long-term sales agreements - for maximum of 65% to upper bound of 80-90% of production, and hold back balance for the spot market, or to rebalance portfolios.

s.13,s.17

*When LNG Income Tax was first announced in February 2014, financial figures were based on 2013 economic assumptions.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

LNG Plant & Vessel Safety:

Topic: Details of how/why LNG export facilities and vessels are safe

Key Messages:

- LNG is safe, on land and in transit.
- LNG facilities will operate under BC's strict regulatory requirements.
- As part of an environmental assessment, industry must conduct an analysis of possible accidents and malfunctions.
- Each LNG facility built must produce a detailed emergency response plan.
- LNG isn't stored under pressure, and its vapour is not explosive in an unconfined environment. Leak detection systems will also be in place.
- LNG tankers have a history of safely transporting natural gas around the world.
- BC is renowned as a natural gas safety leader, with a dedicated provincial regulator (BC Oil and Gas Commission).
- This leadership will guide the construction and operation of every LNG facility built in our province.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Background:

LNG infrastructure and transportation overseas has periodically been the subject of concern in the media.

Discussion about LNG plant safety heightened in April 2014 following an explosion at the Williams Northwest Pipeline LNG processing plant near the Washington-Oregon border which injured five workers and caused about 400 people to be evacuated from nearby homes. The explosion also damaged one of the two LNG storage tanks.

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (OGC) is the primary regulator for proposed LNG facilities and major pipelines. The OGC released a Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Regulation in the summer of 2014. Under this regulation, facilities require noise, light and sound control measures. In addition, all safety aspects must be subject to rigorous engineering design requirements. These provisions ensure the facilities are not located near residential centres.

LNG vessel concerns have primarily concentrated on traffic congestion or disturbance with marine life.

The federal government, through Transport Canada, established the regulatory framework and guidelines for preparedness and response to ship-source spills. The Canadian Coast Guard is the lead federal agency responsible for ensuring the cleanup of ship-sourced spills of oil and other pollutants in Canadian waters, with Environment Canada providing environmental advice in the event of a spill.

LNG proponents address construction, transportation and safety measures in the proposal stage. LNG proponents engage with stakeholders to learn about concerns and issues, before submitting a project description with the Environmental Assessment Office and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. The project description is the first stage of initiating the environmental assessment of a proposal.

LNG is generally recognized as a safe resource. It is odourless, non-toxic, non-corrosive and less dense than water. If a spill were to occur, the natural gas would warm and evaporate, leaving no substances behind.

Since the first shipment in 1964, LNG tankers have safely delivered over 77,000 cargoes.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Pacific NorthWest LNG – Lax Kw'alaams

Topic: Details about discussion with the Lax Kw'alaams First Nation.

Key Messages:

- First Nations have an integral role in BC's work to develop this new industry.
- The Lax Kw'alaams are one of many First Nations interested in the benefits LNG can create, including good paying jobs and environmental stewardship projects.
- We know we must reach a collective understanding on how environmental concerns will be addressed.
- First Nations engagement is an important aspect of the dialogue that continues to take place with the local community.
- Discussions have been positive and respectful.
- We are pleased to have early working relationships in place with the Lax Kw'alaams Mayor and Council.
- Any developments from these discussions will be announced at the appropriate time.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

February 9, 2016

Background:

The Lax Kw'alaams Band (LKB) is one First Nation concerned about the Pacific Northwest LNG (PNW LNG) proposal on Lelu Island. Specifically, LKB is concerned about the risk PNW LNG would impose on salmon-rearing habitat known as Flora Bank.

In recent months, members of some First Nations and their supporters set up a camp on Lelu Island (the site of the proposed facility adjacent to Flora Bank) to protest the planned location of the facility.

Earlier, in May 2015, Lax Kw'alaams First Nation held three, non-binding, show-of-hands community votes resulting in a near-unanimous rejection of provincial and company financial benefits offered, if PNW LNG were to move forward.

In late 2015 the Lax Kw'alaams voted for a new mayor (John Barry Helin).

s.16

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Lelu Island Declaration:

Topic: A new declaration calls for the permanent protection of Lelu Island.

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada has stated Pacific NorthWest LNG does not pose significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat.
- Since 2012, scientists and engineers have been studying Lelu Island and its environment.
- Extensive, long-term modeling was used to forecast ocean currents and waves in the area of Flora Bank.
- Pacific NorthWest LNG's infrastructure will not significantly change the area's natural habitat. Marine infrastructure has been designed to minimize contact with Flora Bank.
- According to the proponent, local and First Nations knowledge was incorporated into the latest design.
- Safety is paramount. Fish and fish habitat will be protected. And both the provincial government and the proponent will continue to work with local First Nations and the community.
- With all that said, an environmental review by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is still underway and we should not rush to judge the project until that review is completed.
- If this facility is built, audits and inspections will be carried out to ensure Pacific NorthWest is meeting or exceeding our standards and regulations. The provincial government will enforce these rigorously.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

January 25, 2016

Background:

Update January 25, 2016: A two-day Salmon Nation Summit concluded with a Lelu Island Declaration that declares permanent protection in the area from industrial development. The declaration was signed by a coalition of First Nations, local residents and federal and provincial politicians.

The Lelu Island Declaration states: "The undersigned First Nation leaders and citizens of the Nine Allied Tribes of Lax Kw'alaams hereby declare that Lelu Island, and Flora and Agnew Banks, are hereby protected for all time, as a refuge for wild salmon and marine resources, and are to be held in trust for all future generations."

More details about the declaration can be found [here](#).

First Nations are concerned Pacific NorthWest LNG poses a threat to salmon habitat in the Skeena River estuary (Flora Bank - a sandy area with eelgrass that nurtures juvenile salmon). The Lax Kw'alaams Band (LKB) has been especially vocal about their concerns.

The Pacific Northwest LNG proposal required reviews under British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Act and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), 2012.

During the provincial environmental assessment, British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) coordinated with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency), with the Agency taking a lead role because the project is located on federal lands.

A provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate was granted to Pacific Northwest LNG on November 25, 2014. Eight conditions were applied to the certificate. Facts and details can be found [here](#).

The federal environmental assessment remains underway. Of note: Fisheries and Oceans Canada has the lead federal role in managing fisheries. On January 18, 2016, Fisheries and Oceans Canada sent a letter to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) indicating "the effects of the marine structure on fish and fish habitat have been categorized as having a low potential of resulting in significant adverse effects".

To date, concerns raised during the environmental assessment, including by First Nations during consultation, regarding Skeena salmon and the crucial estuary habitat at Flora Bank have led to a reconfiguration of the proposed jetty and bridge to avoid impacting Flora Bank.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Project Development Agreements (PDAs)

Topic: Current status of Project Development Agreements with LNG proponents.

Key Messages:

- Last year, the province passed legislation enabling Project Development Agreements.
- These agreements provide proponents with long-term certainty and set the stage for final investment decisions.
- The first agreement was signed with Pacific NorthWest LNG.
- The Province is negotiating project development agreements with other LNG proponents in BC.
- We have non-disclosure agreements with all LNG proponents.
- We will honour those and not disclose details of who we are negotiating additional project development agreements with at this time.

Reality Check – LNG Opportunity

Background:

The Province has passed legislation (Liquefied Natural Gas Project Agreements Act) enabling Project Development agreements (PDAs). The first PDA was signed with Pacific NorthWest LNG.

PDAs represent a major milestone (between the Province and a proponent) before making a final investment decision (FID). PDAs provide certainty to proponents that they will not face significant increases in certain specific taxes and environmental charges under provincial control for the specified term of the agreement:

- The LNG Income Tax
- The Natural Gas Tax Credit.
- The Carbon Tax (specific to liquefying natural gas at an LNG facility).
- The key features of greenhouse gas emissions regulatory scheme at an LNG facility.

A PDA does not provide the proponent with assurance on laws of general application, such as changes to the provincial sales tax or corporate income tax.

The Province is negotiating PDAs with other LNG proponents, but the details of these negotiations are subject to non-disclosure agreements. This means the Province is not able to disclose the details of who these proponents are until an agreement is reached.

There have been letters of intent (LOI) signed with 3 LNG proponents – Altagas, Woodfibre LNG and Pacific NorthWest LNG (PDA completed).

These LOIs are for commitment to negotiate a Project Development Agreement (PDA).

The number of PDAs to be completed – and who they will be completed with – are not known at this time.

s.13,s.17

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

Short Answer:

- We believe in empowering ordinary, hard-working British Columbians to build the lives they want.
- That means moving more British Columbians up the income ladder by removing the obstacles that stand in their way.
- And it means leaving more money in people's pockets – because they should get to decide how they spend it, not the government.

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

Targeted Supports:

- The Single Parent Employment Initiative helps single parents get in to the workforce by allowing them to stay on income assistance for up to 12 months while they train for a new job, it covers:
 - Tuition/education costs for approved training programs
 - Transportation costs to and from school
 - Full child care costs during training
 - Childcare costs after entering the workforce
- MSP changes means 2 million people – 40% of the province – will not be charged at all
 - 335,000 British Columbians will receive a reduction.
- Minimum wage increased by 40 cents effective Sept. 15th – and another increase of 30 cents the following year.
- Exempted child support from income assistance calculations in Balanced Budget 2015.
- Doubled monthly income exemption for families with children receiving income assistance from \$200 to \$400.
 - Increased from \$300 to \$500 for families with children with disabilities.
- As part of our Early Years Strategy we've invested \$15.2 million to support the creation of over 2,400 new child care spaces since 2014.
 - This is part of our commitment to open 13,000 new spaces by 2020/21 (over 8 years).
- Over 24,000 new units of affordable housing since 2001.

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

Keeping Taxes Low:

- B.C. families continue to have one of the lowest overall tax burdens in Canada when all taxes are considered.
- BC maintains the lowest provincial personal income taxes for individuals earning up to \$122,000.
 - An individual can now earn more than \$19,000 before paying any income tax.
 - A senior couple living on \$40,000 will pay \$774 less per year than in 2001.
 - An individual earning \$50,000 will pay \$1,334 less than in 2001.
 - A family of 4 with income of \$70,000 saves \$2,027 compared to 2001.

Balanced Budget 2016 – Supports for families:

- Increasing the threshold for the **BC Tax Reduction Credit** from \$19,000 to \$19,400 so more than 500,000 tax payers won't have to pay provincial income tax.
- Expanding the **BC Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit** to include persons with disabilities to assist with the cost of home renovations to improve accessibility.
- Increasing the **Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit** by \$5 million for 2016...encouraging investment in BC's small businesses.

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

Fees & Rates

MSP: Starting next year, we're making changes to MSP Premiums to make it fair and equitable – in a way that makes sense.

- Approx. 335,000 British Columbians will receive a reduction, as more lower-income families, seniors, and individuals qualify for premium assistance.
- The rates households pay will be based only on the number of adults, no parent will have to pay for their children.
- With these changes, 2 million people will not be charged MSP at all. That's about 40% of the population.

ICBC: The British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) has provided interim approval for a 5.5% increase to Basic insurance rates which came into effect on November 1st. The rate increase was reduced from 6.7% based on a \$450 million transfer of capital from the Optional business to the Basic business.

- It's too early to say what Basic rates will be in 2016 -- many factors can influence future rates such as changes in claims costs and economic conditions.
- However, with the current rate smoothing framework in place -- and if the 5.5% increase currently under review by the BCUC is approved -- the 2016 Basic rate increase can be as low as 4%.
- ICBC works closely with Transportation and Finance staff to develop and implement strategies to keep any rate increase as low as possible.
- The 5.5% increase is due to increasing bodily injury claims costs which totaled \$2.4 billion in 2015.
- Claims costs have increased at a higher rate primarily due to the higher than anticipated bodily injury claims costs and higher material damage costs.

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

BC Ferries:

- The independent BC Ferry Commissioner has allowed for BC Ferries to raise fares by 1.9 percent for each of the next four years, starting April 1st of this year.
- The good news is that there were no fare increases this April as the 1.9 percent fare increase was offset by a fuel rebate.
- BC Ferries had a strong year as far as traffic levels and we are encouraged that this trend will continue.
- The strong traffic levels and financial position support our vision for a coastal ferry service that is affordable, efficient and sustainable in the long term.

Hydro Rates:

- In 2013 we established a 10-year BC Hydro Rates Plan that clearly outlines rate increases.
- When you adjust for inflation - electricity costs the same today as it did in 1976.
- Major components of our electricity system were built 40-50 years ago and need to be repaired or replaced.
- This year's 4% increase represents a \$4 per month increase for the average residential customer.
- We've taken steps to help relieve rate pressures for those in need – committing \$1.6 billion for Power Smart programs to make energy efficiency upgrades more accessible and affordable.

Facts

- BC has the 3rd lowest residential rates in North America (4th lowest commercial / 5th lowest industry).
- BC Hydro is investing \$2.4 billion per year for the next 10 years for maintenance and upgrades (5X more than in the 1990s).
- These projects will create 110,000 jobs over 10 years.

Reality Check – Families & Affordability

Hydro Affordability Programs:

HERO (Home Energy Rebate Offer):

- Up to \$6,000 in rebates for a variety of energy-efficient upgrades.
- Homeowners that complete these upgrades can reduce their energy bills by up to 30%.

Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program:

- Provides incentives of up to \$1,700 to help homeowners upgrade from oil furnaces to electric air source heat pumps.
- Customers can reduce energy bills for a typical home by \$1,300 to \$2,700 every year.

BC Hydro's low income programs:

- Updates to existing low-income programs have more than doubled the number of eligible customers: the percentage of eligible customers has gone from 11 to 24 per cent.

ECAP (Energy Conservation Assistance Program):

- Customers on low incomes can lower their energy bills by up to \$465 each year
- Updates to existing low-income programs has doubled the number of eligible customers.
- Over 11,400 customers have participated in ECAP, including more than 3,600 First Nation homes in 86 communities.

ESKs (Energy Saving Kits):

- Energy Saving Kit products can result in savings of up to \$100 each year for a household.
- Almost 85,000 low-income homes have received a kit since the program launched in 2008.
- Includes simple, easy-to-install products such as compact fluorescent light bulbs and weather stripping products.

Financing:

- BC Hydro is partnering with Vancity to make home energy-efficiency renovations easier.
- Vancity Home Energy™ Loan allows you to borrow as little as \$3,500 or maximum of \$50,000.

Reality Check – Fiscal Management & Debt

Short Answer:

- With a 4th balanced budget in a row... BC is Canada's strongest economy – which means more opportunities for British Columbians
- That didn't happen by accident...
- Thanks to hardworking British Columbians and sticking to our plan, we're in the position to invest \$1.6 billion in new spending initiatives that make a difference in people's lives.
- We're investing in capital infrastructure in health, education, and transportation – and strengthening our social programs for those in need.

Reality Check – Fiscal Management & Debt

Key Messages:

- By maintaining fiscal discipline and controlling spending, we've delivered 4 consecutive balanced budgets.
- This year's budget has \$1.6 in new spending on initiatives that make a difference in people's lives.
- We've done all this while maintaining some of the lowest taxes in Canada.
- B.C. has seen \$16.5 billion in economic expansion since the release of the BC Jobs Plan.
- No wonder a net 13,000 Canadians chose to make BC their home in 2015.
- Today, BC has a debt:GDP ratio of 17%.
 - Compared to almost 40% in Ontario, 50% in Quebec, 31% for Canada.
- By 2019/2020, we will reduce direct operating debt to its lowest level since 1991.
- Since November 2004, we've seen 7 credit rating upgrades for BC – and we maintain the highest credit rating possible with Moody's, Standard & Poor's, and Fitch.
- We've brought over 250,000 (80%) public sector workers into collective agreements under the Economic Stability Mandate – tying future salary increases to economic growth.

Reality Check – Fiscal Management & Debt

Supporting Economic Growth:

- Introducing the **Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit** to qualifying individuals and corporations that farm and donate agricultural product to charities that help those in need.
- Increasing the threshold for the **BC Tax Reduction Credit** from \$19,000 to \$19,400 so more than 500,000 tax payers won't have to pay provincial income tax.
- Expanding the **BC Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit** to include persons with Disabilities to assist with the cost of home renovations to improve accessibility.
- Extending the **Mining Exploration Tax Credit** until the end of 2019 for individuals or corporations that undertake mining exploration in BC.
- Extending the **Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit** through this year, to help fund exploration ventures.
- Increasing the **Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit** by \$5 million for 2016...encouraging investment in our small businesses.

Reality Check – Resource Sector in BC

Short Answer:

- While other provinces' economies are struggling – BC continues to have a strong, diverse, and growing economy.
- B.C.'s resource sector is a key economic driver and a fundamental component of the economic and social fabric of dozens of B.C.'s communities.
- The economic boost from BC's resource sector allows us to make investments across the province and lower mainland that people depend on, like transportation infrastructure, education, and healthcare.

Reality Check – Resource Sector

Mining Report - Key Messages:

- We agree with the Expert Panel and the AG's office that 'business as usual' on mine sites in BC is not good enough.
- While the Mt. Polley accident had unprecedented circumstances – it is evidence that improvements in regulation are necessary to increase protection against the unforeseen.
- That's why we're acting on all combined 43 recommendations from the audit report, the Expert Panel, and the Chief Inspector of Mines - with the exception of one recommendation that we will seriously consider.
- Implementation of the report's 17 recommendations has already begun -- as well as the combined 26 recommendations from the Independent Expert Panel and the Chief Inspector of Mines.
- We take responsibility for the fact that the Ministry of Energy and Mines legislation and policies - at least in hindsight - has needed improvement for many years, and we are committed to make the necessary improvement.

Reality Check – Resource Sector

If asked about ministry staff being at fault:

- I want to thank Auditor General Office for their evaluation of our legislation and policies.
- However, as confirmed by the independent panel of experts – staff in the Ministry of Energy and Mines fulfilled their duties in accordance with the rules in place at the time of the Mt. Polley accident.
- The AG's report seems to suggest that our rules in place at the time authorized ministry staff to do more than they did – and that the Mt. Polley accident could have been prevented.
- We respectfully disagree.
- The opinion of the independent panel of engineering experts and the Chief Inspector of Mines is clear on what caused the accident.
- Both of these reports concluded that the engineers and mining company had the opportunity to investigate subsurface soils when the tailings dam was built in the mid-1990's.
- However, the investigation done at the time – or any subsequent investigations – would not have uncovered the unstable clay that ultimately caused the accident.

Reality Check – Resource Sector

If asked about creating a separate compliance board:

- We have accepted all 17 recommendations in the AG audit report, with one partial exception.
- We agree with the AG that a separate board to deliver compliance and enforcement for mining should be created.
- We are already under way in doing that.
- However, we are not yet convinced that the board needs to be outside of the ministry.
- We recognize that the two ministries have not worked well enough together in the past, and that we need to get better at that.
- That's we have started to establish the mining compliance and enforcement board that will address the need for greater integration between the two ministries.
- We are also appointing a new deputy chief inspector of mines, who will be specifically responsible for compliance and enforcement.
- We take responsibility for the fact that the Ministry of Energy and Mines legislation and policies - at least in hindsight - has needed improvement for many years, and we are committed to make the necessary improvement.

Reality Check – Resource Sector

Quick Facts:

Key findings in [Resource Works] recent research show how a strong and responsible energy, mining, forestry and aquaculture export economy is good for everybody in the province:

- Natural resources in BC create more than just local jobs.
- If there was a just a 10% boost in BC's natural-resource output it would mean 55% of the well-paid, full-time jobs would be in the Lower Mainland.
- This boost in our resource output would mean:
 - an extra \$2.137 billion in BC's GDP;
 - an extra \$4.5 billion across Canada; and,
 - more than 39,000 new jobs in BC.
- More than half of those jobs would be in the Lower Mainland, in such fields as:
 - Professional business and financial services
 - Transportation
 - Retail
 - Information & Technology
 - Law
 - Engineering
 - Accommodation and food
 - and even art and recreation.

Reality Check – Resource Sector

Mining in BC:

- **More than 30,000** direct jobs in mineral exploration, mining and related sectors today. Was **14,700** in 2001.
- Average salary in 2014 was over **\$120,000** – up from **\$81,000** in 2001.
- Since June 2011, **5 new mines** have opened, creating **over 1300 new jobs**
 - (Copper Mountain, New Afton, Mt Milligan, Bonanza Ledge, Yellow Giant).
- More than 800 exploration and mine development companies are headquartered in British Columbia.
- **5 mines** under construction/permitted, **7 expansions approved**
- **Currently 20** mines in BC under active review through either the EA process or the MMPO permitting process.
- Mineral exploration spending in 2015: **\$272 million – up from \$29 million in 2001.**
- Today, BC accounts for about **21%** of Canadian exploration spending vs. **6%** in 2001.
- We continue to take steps to support mineral exploration:
 - Extended mining flow-through share tax credit to end of 2016.
 - Mine and Community Assistance Program, which will temporarily assist B.C. mines to remain open by allowing companies to defer payment of up to 75 percent of monthly BC Hydro electricity bills until copper or coal prices recover.

Reality Check – Resource Sector in BC

Forestry in BC:

- In 2015, the value of BC forest product exports was \$12.9 billion - 35 per cent of all goods exported from B.C.
- In 2014, B.C.'s forest sector provided 60,700 direct jobs.
- Since 2001, B.C.'s forest sector has become more diversified:
 - There are 57 communities that have acquired a community forest or are close to getting one (compared to 1 in 2001).
 - There are over 860 active woodlot licences. Woodlots are often family owned and operated.
- Since 2003, 177 First Nations have benefited from over \$384 million in revenue-sharing.
- B.C. is one of the world's largest exporters of softwood lumber.
- In 2003, B.C. established a forestry trade office in China, and as a result, lumber exports to China have increased from \$69 million in 2003 to over \$1.43 billion in 2014 – an increase of 2,000%.
- To grow and expand our markets in Asia, the Forests Minister is committed to annual forestry trade missions to Asian markets with the forest industry.
- The growth of markets in Asia helps reduce B.C.'s reliance on the U.S. market; and the growth in China kept at least a dozen mills operating in B.C. during the recent economic downturn.

Reality Check – Resource Sector in BC

Resource Development Projects

Ministry of Energy and Mines

Mine Name	Location	Employees	2014 Estimated Production Value	Date of Mine going into production
Red Chris (Copper, Gold)	Iskut	300	n/a	June 2015
Mt. Milligan (Copper, Silver, Gold)	156 km northwest of Prince George	565	\$420 million	Sept 2013
New Afton (Gold)	Near Kamloops	460	\$385 million	July 2012
Copper Mountain (Copper, Gold, Silver)	Near Princeton	430	\$290 million	June 2011
Mount Polley (Copper, Gold)	Likely	200	\$110 million	1997-2001 initial 2005 re-opened
Gibraltar (Copper, Molybdenum)	Near Williams Lake	620	\$470 million	1972-1999 original 2004 restart
Coal Mountain (Coal)	Near Sparwood	270	\$290 million	2003 Teck
Huckleberry (Copper, Molybdenum)	Near Houston	195	\$115 million	October 1997
Elkview (Coal)	Near Sparwood	975	\$795 million	Original 1902 Teck 1992
Greenhills (Coal)	Near Elkford	595	\$610 million	1983-1992 original 1993 re-opened
Highland Valley Copper (Copper, Molybdenum)	Near Ashcroft	1,340	\$890 million	Original 1963 Amalgamated 1986
Line Creek (Coal)	Near Sparwood	475	\$380 million	1983
Fording River (Coal)	Near Elkford	1,155	\$930 million	March 1972

Notes: Production value in US currency

- The production estimates for industrial minerals, construction aggregates and mines currently in care and maintenance are excluded from the table
- Does not include values for industrial minerals or construction aggregates

Reality Check – Resource Sector in BC

Ministry of Forest, Lands & Natural Resources OPS

Table 1: Major Wood Products Manufacturing Projects

Company	Location	Investment by Company \$\$	Employees	Year
Western Bio Energy (Biomass electricity generation facilities)	Fort St. James / Merritt	\$235 million (total)	102 *Merritt - 80 *Fort St. James - 22	2016
Western Forest Products (Sawmill)	Ladysmith	\$38 million	Unknown	2015
Tolko (Pellet Plant)	Lavington	\$47 million	25	2015
Canfor (Sawmill, Bioenergy System)	Elko	\$50 million	Unknown	2015
Canfor (Pellet Plants)	Chetwynd/Fort St. John	\$58 million	16-20	2015- Chetwynd 2016-FSJ
Canfor (Sawmills)	Bear Lake and Fort St. John	\$36 million (total)	Unknown	2014 Announced
Conifex (Wood-fuelled power plant)	Mackenzie	\$100 million	22	2015
Paper Excellence (Pulp Mill)	Chetwynd	\$50 million	136	2015
Paper Excellence (Pulp Mill)	Skookumchuck	\$50 million	290	2013

Table 2: Proposed or On-hold Wood Products Manufacturing Projects

Company	Location	Investment by Company \$\$	Employees	Year
---------	----------	----------------------------	-----------	------

s.13

Reality Check – Climate Action

Short Answer:

- British Columbia has earned a global reputation as a leader in sustainability, responsible resource development, and climate action.
- Here in BC, we've proven you can grow the economy and look after the environment at the same time.
- With Climate Action Plan 2.0, we are doing our part to tackle climate change – because it's the right thing to do for future generations.

Reality Check – Climate Action

Quick Facts:

- British Columbia achieved its 2012 interim GHG reduction target of 6% below 2007 levels, while B.C.'s population and GDP increased.
- B.C. has seen a 48% growth in clean-technology sector sales since introduction of the Climate Action Plan.
- B.C. is recognized globally by the World Bank and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as a model for smart climate policy.
- B.C.'s longer-term targets include a 33% reduction from 2007 levels by 2020, and an 80% reduction by 2050.
- Since 2008, the carbon tax raised over \$6.1 billion – while allowing us to make \$7.1 billion in tax reductions for businesses, individuals, and families.

Reality Check – Climate Action

Recent new climate actions:

- Joining the Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Alliance [December 2015].
- The intent for B.C. to join the Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF) as an observer – the first step towards full membership [December 2015].
- Joining the RegionsAdapt Initiative [December 2015].
- Renewed membership with the Climate Group States and Regions Alliance [November 2015].
- Funding of \$1.24 million over three years to support local government and First Nations energy capital projects and energy-efficiency improvements [April 2015].
- The renewed Clean Energy Vehicle Program [March 2015].
- Working through other important international partnerships like the World Bank Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition [February 2015] and Compact of States and Regions [December 2014] to encourage other jurisdictions to follow B.C.'s lead on carbon pricing.
- The benchmark for LNG facilities to make B.C. LNG the cleanest in the world – its offsets and the technology fund are incentives to invest in emission reduction projects in the natural gas and other sectors in B.C. [October 2014].
- Expanded utility energy-efficiency programs and support for energy retrofits in low-income households [July 2014].
- The Carbon Neutral Capital Program for K-to-12 schools was expanded to include health authorities and public post-secondary institutions [March 2014].
- New energy-efficiency provisions under the B.C. Building Code [December 2013 and 2014].

Reality Check – Climate Action

Climate Leadership Plan:

- To ensure B.C. remains a global climate leader, we are moving our climate agenda forward through the development of a new Climate Leadership Plan.
- The plan is being assembled with the advice of the Climate Leadership Team – made up of leaders from B.C. businesses, communities, First Nations, academia and the environmental sector – and through public, industry and stakeholder consultation.
- In the first round of public consultation last summer, we wanted to know what areas citizens believe required the most immediate attention for us to achieve our short-term and long-term climate goals.
- The second round of public engagement began on January 25, 2016 – lasting for 60 days.
- We are inviting the public to read the online consultation guide and provide feedback for their preferences for a new climate plan.
- A more detailed survey will also be posted during the consultation period.
- Concurrent with this public engagement, sector-specific industry consultations will also take place.
- Ipsos Reid will also begin public polling to ensure a represented sample of British Columbians is canvassed.
- The final Climate Leadership Plan, to be released in the spring, will include new climate actions to drive down emissions while supporting a growing economy.

Reality Check – Climate Action

Clean Economy:

- The Province has 68,165 clean economy jobs, a 12.5 per cent increase since 2010. ****West Coast Clean Economy 2010-2014 Jobs Update – Delphi Group, 2015***
- British Columbia's clean economy GDP rose to \$6.31 billion by 2014, a 19.3 per cent increase from 2010. ****West Coast Clean Economy 2010-2014 Jobs Update – Delphi Group, 2015***
- Our green economy provides the foundation for a secure tomorrow, through investments and job creation around the province.
- For instance, we have seen a 48 per cent growth in clean-technology sector sales since 2008.
- Clean energy is the basis of a green economy.
- B.C.'s Clean Energy Act requires at least 93 per cent of the province's electricity be generated by clean or renewable resources.
- Last year (2014/15), B.C.'s electricity supply was 98 per cent clean.

Reality Check – Climate Action

Climate actions in the transportation & building sectors:

- At approximately 37%, the transportation sector is B.C.'s largest source of emissions.
- B.C. and California were the first to implement low carbon fuel standards in 2010.
- B.C.'s renewable and low-carbon fuel requirement mandates a 10% reduction in the carbon content of fuels by 2020, 5% renewable content in gasoline and 4% in diesel.
- The use of renewable and low carbon fuel in 2012 saved over 900,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from being released into the environment – the equivalent of removing more than 190,000 vehicles from the road.
- In April 2013, B.C. became the first jurisdiction in Canada to adopt both the new National Building Code energy-efficiency requirements for housing and small buildings, and the National Energy Code for Buildings that applies to large buildings.

Reality Check – Climate Action

LNG Emissions:

- Our government promised the cleanest LNG facilities in the world, and that is exactly what we're delivering.
- B.C.'s climate leadership guides the development of our LNG industry. The GHG emissions cap we have placed on our LNG facilities will make B.C.'s the cleanest in the world.
- By developing the cleanest LNG facilities in the world, we will build on our proud track record of growing the economy while protecting our environment.
- Climate change is a global issue. By exporting natural gas, B.C. will supply growing markets with the cleanest-burning fossil fuel.
- The facilities built here will address greenhouse gases to a higher standard than any other LNG facilities in the world.
- We will be a global leader in clean LNG because we will encourage further investment to reduce emissions in the upstream.
- Where natural gas replaces other fossil fuels, lower emissions and improved global air quality will result.
- And we'll protect the environment here at home with air quality regulations that protect the health of our communities.

Reality Check – First Nations

Short Answer:

- We have a responsibility to work towards recognition and reconciliation with First Nations and Aboriginal British Columbians.
- We want First Nations to be full and equal partners in economic development.
- We are working to build on the meaningful, respectful conversations initiated at the historic Crown-First Nations gathering last fall.

Reality Check – First Nations

Quick Facts:

Total agreements with First Nations: More than 440

Agreements since Tsilhqot'in SCC Decision: More than 140

- **Final Treaties** = 5 treaties with 9 First Nations
- **Agreements-in-Principle** = 9 AIPs with 18 First Nations
- **Incremental Treaty Agreements** = 22 agreements with 26 First Nations
- **Clean Energy Revenue Sharing Agreements** = 39 agreements with 31 First Nations
- **Clean Energy Equity Investment Funding** = 10 agreements with 10 First Nations
- **Economic and Community Development and Mining-Related Agreements** = 23 agreements with 39 First Nations
- **Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements** = 215 agreements with 149 First Nations (110 agreements with 124 First Nations are active)
- **Reconciliation Agreements** = 10 agreements with 26 First Nations
- **Strategic Engagement Agreements** = 8 agreements with 45 First Nations
- **Pipeline Benefit Agreements** = 62 agreements with 29 First Nations
- **Economic Benefit Agreements** = 2 agreements with 4 First Nations (*total active agreements-see summary below*)
- **Resource Revenue Sharing Agreement** = 1 agreement with 5 First Nations

Reality Check – First Nations

Key Messages:

- We are committed to building government-to-government partnerships where fairness, trust and mutual respect are the guiding principles.
- We've made significant progress – but there's still more ahead.
- Supporting greater economic prosperity in First Nations communities is a major part of our roadmap to reconciliation.
- Our focus is on continuing to take strides together that result in positive economic and social change for First Nations people and communities.
- Since last summer, we've reached nearly 100 economic and reconciliation agreements with nations across the province.

Reality Check – First Nations

Proposed Commitment Document

- We have large strides working with individual First Nations communities and we continue to make progress across BC.
 - In the last decade Dogwood completion rate are up substantially.
 - Post-secondary graduation rates are also up substantially.
 - Infant mortality rates have improved.
- We have redoubled efforts to enhance economic and employment opportunities for First Nations.
- The Proposed Commitment Document reflects B.C.'s continued commitment to reconciliation through government-to-government relationships with First Nations.
- The document proposes work we need to do together to close economic and social gaps, to collaborate on land and resource decisions, and to be full partners in the economic life of B.C
- This means working with First Nation leaders, business and advocacy groups
- We look forward to hearing back from First Nations about this proposed approach, and will be reviewing it ourselves.

Reality Check – First Nations

Key Messages – Treaty Process:

- Last year, our government initiated a collaborative process with the other treaty principals – the First Nations Summit and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – to find ways to deliver results faster and in ways that are less expensive.
- We are making progress and have completed the initial round of work to address ongoing challenges within the process.
- It will take time to make substantive improvements to the treaty process, but I expect the path forward will to be discussed by the treaty principals in upcoming months.
- We expect an interim chief commissioner will continue to lead the B.C. Treaty Commission while this work continues.

Reality Check – Site C

Short Answer:

- Our decision on Site C means a century of affordable, reliable, clean power that will keep hydro rates low, support our quality of life, and enable increased investment.
- And it means thousands of jobs – including many union jobs – that would not otherwise have been created.

Site C Employment Statistics			
Month	Total Number of Workers on Site	Number of B.C. Workers on Site	% of B.C. Workers
March 2016	651	475	73%
February 2016	691	492	71%
January 2016	564	381	68%
December 2015	518	345	67%
November 2015	482	314	65%
October 2015	641	457	71%
September 2015	665	475	71%
August 2015	392	322	82%

Reality Check – Site C

Quick Facts:

- Site C will provide 1,100 megawatts of dependable capacity, and produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours of energy each year – enough to power the equivalent of 450,000 homes per year.
- Site C will have among the lowest greenhouse gas emissions, per gigawatt hour, compared to other electricity-generation options.
- Over the first 50 years of Site C's project life, ratepayers will save an average of \$650 million to \$900 million each year – compared to alternatives – meaning an annual savings of approx. 6 to 8 per cent for a typical household.
- The project will create about 10,000 person-years of direct construction employment – and about 33,000 person-years of total employment.
 - The Main Civil Works contract alone is expected to create 1,500 jobs at peak construction in 2018.
- It will contribute \$3.2 billion to provincial GDP - \$132 million in regional GDP – and \$40 million in tax revenues to local government's during construction.
- Based on employee self-identification – more than 50 Aboriginal employees are working on the project.

Reality Check – Site C

Key Messages:

- We expect BC's population to grow by 1 million people over the next 20 years.
- We need the power to meet new demand:
 - From mining,
 - From oil,
 - From natural gas.
- Because a growing economy means a growing need for power.
- BC today has the 3rd-lowest electricity rates in North America, and we want to keep it that way.
- Over the first 50 years of Site C's project life, ratepayers will save an average of \$650 to \$900 million each year, compared to the alternatives – savings of 6 to 8% for a typical household.
- When the project starts construction this summer, it will create around 10,000 direct construction jobs.
- The Site C budget has been reviewed by KPMG, an independent panel of contractors, the Ministry of Finance, and Treasury Board.

Reality Check – Site C

Key Messages – Labour Model:

- Site C will also create 10,000 direct construction jobs for working men and women...jobs that would otherwise not have been created.
 - 1 billion in paycheques that would never have got out the door.
- We have a strong working relationship with labour, because they know we're the only party that stands for jobs.
 - They know the only way to build these projects is by saying YES to economic development.
- I'm looking forward to seeing Building Trades members, along with members of other unions, benefit from Site C.
 - They work hard, they know their business, and we want to see them thrive.
- The approach BC Hydro will take is one that will bring in union and non-union workers...as well as local First Nations.
- And it will build on BC Hydro's track record of providing apprenticeship opportunities on major projects.

Reality Check – Budget Choices

Short Answer:

- BC is leading Canada in economic growth because of hardworking British Columbians – and because we've stuck to our plan.
- Balanced Budget 2016 gives us a unique opportunity make \$1.6 billion in new investments that will make a real difference in people's lives – without going into debt.
- Because we've stayed disciplined – and because our diverse economy has weathered the global economic slowdown better than most – we have \$2.4 billion more to invest in British Columbians.
- It also means we're on track to being able to eliminate the operating debt in 2020 – for the first time since 1975.

Reality Check – Budget Choices

Health

- Increasing funding by \$523 million in 2016/17, to a total of \$17.97 billion. This will be more than a 117% increase since 2000/01.
- Budget 2016 continues to add more dollars to health care with \$3.2 billion of additional funding overall for the Ministry of Health in the next three years compared to 2015-16.
- In this budget, we are protecting and maintaining health authority budgets, while also ensuring the health services British Columbians rely on are maintained.
- In B.C., we spend the third-lowest per capita on health care, but have some of the best outcomes in Canada.

K-12

- Investing a record \$5.1 billion in public education this year.
- Total education funding is up \$110 million this year.
- Investing \$1.7 billion over the next three years to replace, renovate, expand, or seismically upgrade K-12 facilities.
- Capital investment is up 16% from last year.

JTST

- \$8 million in funding over three years for pre-apprenticeship programs
- This funding will connect more than 5,000 students with trades training, allowing them to discover and explore the trades earlier, and help young British Columbians find their fit in our diverse, strong and growing economy.
- \$90 million annually in the tourism sector in every region in the province.

Reality Check – Budget Choices

Ministry of Children and Family Services

- \$217 million to support vulnerable children and families and implement the recommendations in the Plecas report.
- \$286 million to address caseloads pressures in temporary income assistance, disability, and related supplementary benefits (includes \$36 million to Community Living BC).

Social Development and Social Innovation

- \$456 million in new funding over the next three years. The ministry's total budget to help individuals and families in need in 2016/17 is more than \$2.7 billion dollars
- This includes \$170 million to provide a rate increase for 100,000 people on disability assistance.
- It also includes \$36 million in new funding for Community Living BC to provide new or increased services over 2,600 people with developmental disabilities and their families.
- \$250 million for increased caseloads and income assistance
- \$170 million to increase income assistance rates for people with disabilities – an increase of up to \$77 per month, which will affect over 100,000 people.

AVED

- Government invests approx. \$1.9 billion annually to support public post-secondary education in B.C. This is equivalent to about \$5 million a day.
- Total operating grants provided to public post-secondary institutions will increase by 43.5% from \$1.3 billion in 2001-02 to more than \$1.8 billion in 2016-17.
- Average funding per student has increased almost 16% over the last 14 years: from \$8,440 in 2001/02 to \$9,800 in 2015/16.

Reality Check – Budget Choices

Transportation and Infrastructure

- Over \$18 billion since 2001 in transportation infrastructure projects.
- \$2.7 billion over three years in new funding on priority transportation investments -- \$240 million more than our three year funding projection from last year:
 - \$638 million in road rehabilitation
 - \$270 million for side road improvements
 - \$60 million to upgrade natural gas roads to ensure safe, reliable year round access to resource areas.
 - \$206 million for Highway 1 between Kamloops and the Alberta Border
 - \$116 million for the Okanagan Valley Corridor
 - \$115 million for the Cariboo Connector
 - \$621 million in major highway corridors and roads
 - \$451 million in transit infrastructure
- Over \$1.1 billion to ensure quality road and bridge maintenance, and \$530 million on ferry services.

MTICS

- The Ministry's budget for 2016/17 has been tabled at \$491.997 million – up \$12.984 million (2.7%) from the restated 2015/16 budget of \$479.013 million. This primarily reflects:
 - An increase of \$12 million for the operation of the Okanagan Correctional Centre.
- \$6 million in the Okanagan Centre for Innovation in Kelowna, a public-private partnership which will be operational in the coming fiscal year.
- \$10 million to accelerate rural Internet connectivity as announced in Budget 2015. (Part of \$10M will be coming from budget 2016).

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Short Answer:

- The result of a strong, diverse and growing economy is more jobs and opportunity for British Columbians.
- Preliminary estimates show a net increase of 13,000 people moving to BC from other provinces so far in 2015.
- That's why we're continuing to work with private sector labour leaders and industry to meet the need of today and tomorrow.

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Key Messages:

- BC is blessed with a diverse, free enterprise economy – not dependent on any one sector.
- 156,400 jobs were created since the BC Jobs Plan.
- Right now in B.C., we've got over \$340 billion in proposed projects... and we have over \$80 billion in the construction stage.
- By maintaining fiscal discipline and controlling spending, we've delivered four consecutive balanced budgets.
- 20 potential LNG export projects proposed in BC, \$20 billion invested already.
- Since 2011: 8 new mines have opened, or are under construction, creating over 1,500 new jobs.
- International exports of British Columbia goods totalled \$35.8 billion in 2014, an increase of 7.0% over 2013.
- Since 2001, B.C. lumber exports to China have increased over 3,800%.
- Instead of taking lectures from the NDP, we'll keep moving forward with our proven plan supported by British Columbians.

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Employment:

- Record employment - over 2.3 million working.
- 156,400 jobs were created since the BC Jobs Plan.
- At 5.8%, BC's unemployment rate is below the national average of 7.1%, 1st in Canada.
 - Largest decrease in Canada since Jobs Plan
 - Vancouver Island: 6.6% - historic high of 11.7% (March 98)
 - Prince George: 4.7% - historic high: 17.6% (Mar. 99)
- Youth unemployment rate is 10.5%, 1st provincially.
 - Nearly half the historic high of 20.1% in June of 1998.
 - Largest decrease in Canada since Jobs Plan

Economic Growth:

- Over \$340 billion in proposed projects
- Over \$80 billion in the construction stage.
- Since the release of the BC Jobs Plan: \$16.5 billion in economic expansion.
- We are consistently in top 3 provinces for business confidence.

Exports & International Trade:

- Worldwide exports: \$35.9 billion - up 10% over 2011
- India goods exports: \$623 million, up 210% from 2011
- USA goods exports: \$18.7 billion, up 33% from 2011
- China goods exports: over \$6 billion, up 25% from 2011
- ASEAN goods exports: \$781 million, up 55% from 2011
- Six Premier missions to Asian markets that resulted in agreements valued at \$3.2 billion for BC.
- Since the launch of BC Jobs Plan in 2011, 73 international offices have been attracted to BC.

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Small Business:

- Reduced red tape by 43% since 2001, receiving CFIB's 'A' grade 5 years in a row – only jurisdiction in Canada to ever receive this grade.
- Increased supports for small business, among the highest small business confidence in Canada.

Forestry:

- 2014 BC forest production exports were \$12.4 billion, up 63% since 2009.
- Forestry is 35% of all BC exports.
- Since 2001, B.C. lumber exports to China have increased over 3,800%.
- 57 communities have acquired a community forest or are close to getting one.
 - In 2001, there was only one community forest.

Mining and Energy

- Completed the \$716 million Northwest Transmission Line – which came in \$30M under the revised budget.
 - NWTL opened a quadrant of B.C. that was not on the grid making it possible for a huge renaissance of mining in NW BC.
- Since 2011, more than \$2.2 billion has been spent on mineral exploration in B.C.
- Jobs and business opportunities created by mineral exploration companies contributes an average combined sum of a half billion dollars every year.

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Tech sector:

- Contributes \$23.3 Billion in Annual Revenue – up from \$13 billion in 2002.
- More than 86,800 Jobs – up from 66,000 in 2002.
- Launched BC Tech Strategy, \$100 million venture capital fund.

Tourism:

- Total revenue in 2014: \$14.6 billion, up 5.1% since 2013.
- Contributes \$7.1 billion to BC's economy, 132,200 jobs
- Aboriginal Cultural tourism revenues doubled from \$20 million in 2006 to \$45 million in 2013.

Natural Gas

- 20 proposed LNG export projects proposed in B.C.
- \$20 billion invested to date.
- 2 agreements with Pacific NorthWest LNG.
 - Project development agreement.
 - Long-term royalty agreement.

Agrifoods:

- Agrifoods revenue in 2014: \$12.3 billion – up from \$700 million in 2013.
- \$1.8 billion in sector growth since 2010.
- B.C. agrifoods exports reached \$3 billion in exports, the highest ever, to more than 150 countries.
- B.C. Agrifood and Seafood Strategic Growth Plan, our roadmap to increasing provincial revenues in the agrifood and seafood sector to \$15 billion a year by 2020.

Reality Check – Jobs & Opportunity

Transportation:

- Over \$18 billion, with partners, since 2001 to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of highways across the province, including highway maintenance.
- Over \$4.5 billion in Transit Infrastructure and improvements across BC.
- \$1.26 billion South Fraser Perimeter Road
- New international services to Tokyo, Munich, Osaka and Reykjavik.

Aboriginal Relations

- Since 2011, signed over 440 significant agreements with First Nations, both treaty and other reconciliation agreements.
- B.C. was the first province in Canada to share mineral tax revenue with First Nations - \$22 million since 2013.
- As part of the Skills for Jobs Blueprint, we will have invested up to \$30 million By March 2018 from the Aboriginal Skills Training Development Fund.
- Approx. 1,000 Aboriginal people have participated in LNG-related training opportunities since the launch of the fund.

Reality Check – Infrastructure

Short Answer:

- BC's strong, growing and diverse economy means that we have the ability to invest at record levels in critical infrastructure.
- These investments provide British Columbians vital infrastructure like roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, and other community projects that help communities keep up with an expanding population that comes with a growing economy.

Reality Check – Infrastructure

Quick Facts:

Over our three year fiscal plan there is a total of \$20.6 billion in capital spending – of which \$12 billion is taxpayer supported. This includes:

- **\$2.9 billion** in health infrastructure projects:
 - Royal Inland Hospital – Kamloops
 - Children and Women’s Hospital – Vancouver
 - Penticton Regional Hospital, and
 - North Island hospitals in Comox Valley and Campbell River.
- **\$1.7 billion** in K-12 education infrastructure:
 - Clayton North Secondary School – Surrey
 - Smiling Creek Elementary – Coquitlam
 - Northwest Elementary – Fort St. John
 - Alpha Secondary seismic upgrade – Burnaby
 - Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith seismic upgrade – Vancouver
- **\$2.5 billion** in post-secondary infrastructure:
 - Emily Carr University
 - UBC life science teaching laboratories
 - Selkirk College trades facility renovation – Nelson
- **\$3.1 Billion** in transportation investments, including:
 - Hwy 1 widening - Langley
 - McKenzie interchange – Saanich
 - Fort Nelson River Bridge reconstruction

Reality Check – Infrastructure

Key Messages:

- BC has a strong, diverse economy because we continue to attract investment, create jobs, and create an environment where businesses can thrive.
- Thanks to hardworking British Columbians - and because we've stuck to our plan – we have a strong operating budget that allows us to make record levels capital investment in BC.
- We're able to make these investments while still posting repeated surpluses, paying down the debt, and maintaining our AAA credit rating.

FOI – General Key Messages:

- This government and I are fully committed to transparency and openness with regards to government records.
- Use of modern technology results in government creating more records at a faster rate than ever before.
- In response to the OIPC's report we sought advice from David Loukidelis who outlined 27 information management recommendations.
- We have accepted these recommendations and have begun implementing them.
- Government will now proactively release information on:
 - Directly awarded contracts
 - Ministers, DM's and ADM calendars
 - Regular summaries of gaming grants
 - Status of all active FOI requests received after April 1st.
 - By July 30th, government will begin releasing receipts for ministers' travel expenses on a quarterly basis.
- Other new measures to improve transparency and disclosure include:
 - A new FOI search process involving designated public servants in each ministry to help respond to requests.
 - Easier access online to previous released FOI requests.
 - Information management Act was brought into force as of May 10th – replacing the old Document Disposal Act of 1936.
- These new disclosures add to the information and data already released on a routine basis.

FOI - Quick Facts:

- The BC government receives between 8,000 and 10,000 FOI request per year.
- Over the last five years government has responded to more than 45,000 Freedom of Information requests – comparable to Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba combined.
- Government has retained almost 1 million boxes of records securely stored in its possession, and every year, an additional 40,000 boxes of records are created.
- In 2015-16 there were 2,923 general requests that resulted in responsive records – compared to 1,269 in 2009-10.
- With over 2,900 public bodies covered, B.C.'s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act has amongst the broadest coverage of public sector privacy and access to information legislation in Canada.

Denham-Loukidelis Reports

- The public has high expectations of government when it comes to openness, and they should.
- In OIPC's report contained 5 findings and 11 recommendations to improve government's FOI processes and records management policy.
- We subsequently sought advice from former Commissioner, David Loukidelis, on actions to respond the OIPC report.
- In December 2015, Loukidelis released a report outlining 27 information management recommendations.
- We have accepted these recommendations and have already started to implement them.
- Government will be enhancing mandatory training requirements to ensure all employees know how retain records in a responsible way.
- Almost almost all Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, and minister's office staff have received updated training.

FOI Staff in Political Offices →

FOI Staff in Political Offices

- Mr. Loukidelis recommended that a public servant should oversee the collection of records from political staff.
- As soon as procedures can be implemented, career public servants will be provided with enhanced training and for overseeing the searching and identification of records responsive to information requests directed to Ministers' offices.
- Training and continued oversight will be necessary to ensure we're meeting the high standards we are setting for ourselves.
- As noted in Mr. Loukidelis' report, political staff are appointed under the Public Service Act and are subject to government policies on records management. They are also subject to a code of conduct for political staff.
- The practice of 'triple deleting' has been prohibited and Ministers and political staff will continue to retain sent emails.
- Government policy requires that all employees, including staff in ministers' offices, keep and dispose of records in accordance with records schedules and management policies.
- An email inbox is not an appropriate place to store records, nor is it in any way an indicator of the records government has kept.

Ministry of Transportation Violation

Key Messages:

- I am aware that charges have been approved by the Special Prosecutor.
- The Special Prosecutor was appointed by the Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch and has made recommendations regarding charges.
- The Special Prosecutor's decisions are made independent of government.
- As this is now the subject of an ongoing prosecution, it would not be appropriate for me to comment further and I would direct enquiries to the Criminal Justice Branch.

If asked about Indemnities:

- Indemnity coverage is provided following advice from senior legal officials in government (specifically, the Assistant Deputy Attorney General of Legal Services Branch) - there is no political involvement in these decisions.
- I don't know who has received indemnitees – and I shouldn't know.

Indemnities – Key Messages:

- We've had a clearly defined indemnity policy since the early 1990s that has worked well for hundreds of employees in the public service – in fact – on both sides of the house.
- Following Professor Stephen Toope's review of indemnity policy in 2012 we have enacted new regulations.
- These include criteria for how an employee's eligibility is determined.
- There is no political involvement in these decisions – nor should there be.
- If it's determined that an individual has committed wrongdoing, there are provisions in the regulation for the repayment of the legal fees.

Eligibility

- Since the early 1990s, the terms and conditions of employment for excluded employees and some OIC appointees have included coverage for legal expenses incurred for defending matters in relation to performance of their employment.
- Indemnification is available to employees, including those subject to criminal proceedings. If it's determined that an individual has committed wrongdoing, there are provisions in the regulation for the repayment of the legal fees.
- Where coverage is provided for defamation, any damages, settlement proceeds or court-awarded costs must be used to repay the amount of coverage provided.

Indemnities if Person Resigns or is Terminated

- Generally, indemnities are available to former employees as long as they were employees at the time.
- Any indemnity coverage is only available in relation to conduct undertaken in good faith by the employee as part of their job.
- Coverage may be terminated in cases where it's determined an employee (or former employee) has not acted in good faith or has breached any other term or condition of the coverage.

Toope's Recommendations

- Professor Stephen Toope conducted a review of the indemnity policy, and in 2012 government accepted all nine recommendations and responded by enacting new regulations.
- The new regulations include criteria for how an employee's eligibility is determined.
- The regulation provides coverage only if an employee's involvement arises from conduct that occurred in the "performance of employment" as defined in the regulation.
- Professor Toope supported government indemnifying employees for criminal and non-criminal matters.

Indemnity Limitations

- Indemnity coverage is not unlimited. For non-criminal matters, the Assistant Deputy Attorney General recommends maximums based on general experience in the type of case involved.
- For criminal matters, an independent reviewer is appointed to set the terms of the retainer and monitor the cost of defence counsel.
- When proceedings in which an employee has received indemnity coverage are concluded, information about the coverage is reported to the legislature.

Transit Pass – Key Messages:

- Budget 2016 provides an additional \$170 million over three years to help individuals and families in need.
- This additional funding allows SDSI to increase disability assistance rates by up to \$77 per month.
 - Providing extra support to 100,000 people in B.C.
- Beginning September 1, persons with disability will receive up to \$77 cash.
- They can decide how they will spend it – they can purchase a subsidized bus pass (\$52) or use it for something else.
- The change will bring greater equity and fairness to transportation supports provided by the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation.
- Are the Members Opposite advocating for inequality in the system?
- Are they advocating that people in their community should get less? – or that they should not be provided with transportation supports?

Quick Facts:

- BC is the only province in Canada that subsidizes bus passes for low income seniors and people on disability assistance.
- Prior to these changes, 45,000 individuals who were receiving disability assistance were not receiving the benefits of the bus pass.

COMMUNITIES	Number of PWDs	Monthly Bus Pass Amount	LEFT FROM \$77
100 Mile House	11	\$35	\$42
Fort St. John	15	\$40	\$37
Quesnel	84	\$35	\$42
Squamish	54	\$39	\$38
Revelstoke	17	\$45	\$32
Dawson Creek	60	\$50	\$27
Kitimat	41	\$44	\$33
Williams Lake	52	\$43	\$34
Cranbrook	116	\$50	\$27
Merritt	26	\$42	\$35
Powell River	95	\$45	\$32

MCFD – Plecas Report

Key Messages:

- The protection and care of B.C.'s vulnerable children and families is a priority we all share.
- Mr. Plecas' report confirms that – despite the struggles it still faces – the Ministry of Children and Family Development is moving down the right path.
- But more needs to be done.
- We're committed to maintaining the stability Mr. Plecas deemed crucial – hiring even more social workers than recommended.
- In the coming weeks we'll be announcing further measures to support both at-risk children and our social workers.

If asked about keeping the Representative's position:

- There are a lot of valuable recommendations in Mr. Plecas' report that we will be implementing.
- The RCY's office has a key role in ensuring that we're doing the best we can for BC's children and youth.
- We've been clear from day one that we're not looking to move that authority into the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Quick Facts:

- \$217 million to support vulnerable children and families and implement the recommendations in the Plecas report.
- \$286 million to address caseloads pressures in temporary income assistance, disability, and related supplementary benefits – including \$36 million to Community Living BC.
- Increased: 644 youth placed for adoption the past two years – exceeding our targets.
- Decreased: number of children in care – 7,200 (lowest in 19 years)
- Additional: 200 front line staff added since November 2014.
- More than 27,000 clients seen by Child and Youth Mental Health Services
- More than 111,000 licensed child care spaces funded.

MCFD – Paige Report

- Nearly one year ago today, B.C.'s Representative for Children and Youth shared with us her report on the life and tragic death of a young woman named Paige.
- The report spoke to the unique and tragic circumstances of one individual.
- But it also served to highlight the struggles faced by too many young people who – for a variety of reasons – end up being drawn to the darkest corners of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.
- That is why we responded with immediate steps to address its recommendations – including a review of service delivery of the DTES.
- A project of that scope naturally takes some time to complete – it required dedicated time to conduct interviews and gather, review and analyze file information on 124 children and youth.
- Based on the lessons learned by the extensive review of children and youth on the DTES - and the Rapid Response Team - we have provided \$1.2 million to target our resources to meet the specific identified needs of street-entrenched youth.
 - **\$800,000** to create a dedicated adolescent services unit at the Ministry's Cambie Street office.
 - **8 new staff positions** will be added and existing child protection services at Cambie Street will be shifted to other Vancouver offices to accommodate this change.
 - **2 staff positions** will be added to the rapid response team to permanently establish the team's coordination and administrative functions.
 - **\$400,000** to service delivery organizations experienced in these services to expand their youth outreach efforts, extend their hours of operation and enhance their staffing numbers.
- We've learned a lot about this vulnerable population over the last six months and we are using those lessons to reduce organizational barriers and gaps to service

Key Messages – Report Timelines:

- This was a very important report – it was important to release it – and even more important to act on it.
- That is why we responded with immediate steps to address its recommendations:

Recommendations Completed:

- 1. The Rep called for a review of all the files of ministry-involved children and youth on the Downtown Eastside.**
- Our Rapid Response Team is already making progress with 28 youth who now have a place to sleep, access to the health care they need and, most importantly, they have a dedicated team who understands the unique challenges they face.
- 2. The Rep called for a review of service delivery on the Downtown Eastside.**
- Over a five-month span we canvassed, inventoried and sat down with dozens of social-service organizations on the downtown eastside to examine how we link our hands into a safety net so that youth, like Page, can't slip through our collective fingers.
- 3. The Rep called for accountability around agencies and service providers reporting harm and abuse.**
- We've reached out to thousands of services providers and more than 344 in the Downtown Eastside alone – doctors, police, youth outreach workers – to clarify the duty to report to us when they believe a child or teen may be in need of protection. This work includes more than 265 training sessions attended by close to 5,000 service providers throughout the province.

Property Transfer Tax

- A new full exemption for new homes up to \$750,000 will save home buyers up to \$13,000.
- The cost of the exemption will be offset by increasing the property transfer tax from 2% to 3% on homes valued over \$2 million.

Affordable Housing

- \$355 million by BC Housing over five years to build or renovate more than 2,000 new units of affordable housing.
- Largest single investment in affordable housing in BC history.

Data Collection

- Starting summer 2016, individuals who purchase property will need to disclose citizenship or permanent residency.
- These changes will provide information on the volume of foreign investment in BC.

Home Renovation Tax Credit

- Expanded to include person with disabilities.
- Provides up to \$1,000 annual to help with home renovations to improve accessibility for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Key Messages:

- We recognize that home ownership affordability can be challenging in BC, particularly in Vancouver.
- To take further action on affordability, Ministers De Jong and Coleman will work with Mayor Robertson on collaborative steps both governments can take to help increase market and rental housing supply – as well as reducing red tape and investment costs.
- These conversations will then be broadened to other local governments and the UBCM for a broader, more provincial discussion.
- We would need to proceed carefully before considering measures that would prevent sellers from obtaining a fair market price.
- We have a number of programs in place that help keep homeownership affordable for British Columbians, such as the Homeowner Grant and the First Time Home Buyers' Program.

Social Housing

- We continue to work with all levels of government, investors, developers and non-profit providers to find new and innovative approaches to build and maintaining our housing stock.
- We are also working with local governments to increase density in existing neighbourhoods and make better use of existing municipal infrastructure.
- Since 2001, we've invested \$4.4 billion in affordable housing and have added more than 24,000 new units of affordable housing.

Vancouver Occupancy Rates Report

Key Findings:

- Non-occupancy Rates have been flat, 4.8% in 2014, staying consistent for over a decade.
- Non-occupancy is more likely in condo apartments.
- Study analysed 225,000 homes – identified 10,800 empty housing units.
- Growth in the number of non-occupied units is driven by growth in the housing stock.

Key Messages:

- We're all concerned about the vacancy rates in Vancouver – no one wants to live in an empty neighborhood.
- All levels of government need to see what options are available to create more rental options.
- Budget 2016 announced new data collection measures that will help us understand what drives growth in BC's real estate market.
- We've also introduced a number of measures designed to stimulate the supply of new housing, assist new home buyers, and invest in affordable housing.

**April 12th Independent Advisory Group progress report
highlights expected recommendations:**

1. Additional enforcement tools - such as requiring the reporting of all contract assignments directly to the Council;
2. Limiting the ability of licensees to represent both buyers and sellers in the same transaction;
3. Increasing penalties for those who violate the *Real Estate Services Act*;
4. Requiring licensees who break the rules to disgorge their commissions and profits (over and above the penalties they also pay);
5. Simplifying the complaint process for consumers and increasing transparency;
6. Ensuring that expectations and accountability for managing brokers are sufficient;
7. Restructuring the ratio of public and industry members on the Council's governing board to reflect current best practices for governance;
8. Removing deterrents that may prevent licensees from reporting misconduct;
9. Ensuring that resources and services are easily accessible to the public – and available in multiple languages;
10. Examining business models, such as unregulated ownership structures for brokerages, to ensure they do not weaken the ability of managing brokers or the Council to ensure compliance.

Key Messages:

- In a fast-rising market, some individuals are trying to profit at the expense of homeowners and buyers.
- This week, we took action to address concerns about shadow flipping by introducing new rules that increase transparency and make sure the sellers' best interests are protected.
- Real estate licensees who draft offers to buy property must now include two separate terms about contract assignment in the offer:
 1. Requiring sellers consent to transfer the contract, and
 2. Requiring any resulting profit to be returned to the seller.
- Just like other self-governing professions – it's the Real Estate Council's responsibility to ensure their members are following the rules.
- They have appointed an Independent Advisory group that has identified specific practices and conduct that are contrary to the legal and ethical standards realtors are required and expected to uphold.
- Their April 12th progress report highlighted expected recommendations to further protect real estate customers.
- I look forward to the final report and the Real Estate Council's response - which I expect will address the specific concerns raised to date and include recommendations about measures to protect consumers and consumer confidence in the industry.
- By setting and enforcing standards of practice for real estate licensees – British Columbians can count on dependable and professional advice when making one of the biggest purchases of their life.

New Coast Realty Accusations – Key Messages:

- When British Columbians make one of the biggest purchases in their life they expect that their realtor is acting in their best interest.
- A small number of realtors are engaged in unethical and illegal practices.
- Just like other self-governing professions – it's the Real Estate Council's responsibility to ensure their members are following the rules.
- I understand that the Real Estate council assigned the independent advisory group to investigate a brokerage firm that was accused of misconduct.
- They are also imposing significant conditions on New Coast Realty to protect consumers and they will remain under close scrutiny.
- By setting and enforcing standards of practice for real estate licensees British Columbians can count on licensees to provide dependable advice and professional service, whether they're buying, selling or renting property.

SunCom →

SunCom Real Estate Transaction Key Messages:

- I can't speak to the specifics of the transactions in question: the B.C. Securities Commission is aware of Suncom's activities and is reviewing them.
- BCSC's role is to protect the integrity of BC's capital markets and ensure that securities laws are respected. Businesses are allowed to raise capital from investors to finance their business activities, and rules are in place to protect investors.
- BCSC is able to act if it is proved with evidence that a company has violated securities laws – they will *not* act based on assumptions and allegations masquerading as fact.
- FICOM and the BC Real Estate Council are also aware of SunCom's activities and are monitoring for any unlicensed real estate activity. (*In B.C., anyone conducting real estate trading services must have an active licence.*)

Property Transfer Tax

- Profit or gain earned from a transaction may be subject to income tax, even if not subject to Property Transfer Tax.
- Property transfer tax is triggered when a buyer registers a property at the Land Title Office.
- When you purchase a company or shares in a company that owns property, the title for the property remains within the company.
- Early this summer, government will begin collecting information on the citizenship of directors of corporations involved in taxable property transactions.
- We will also collect information on the settlors and beneficiaries of bare trusts, as well as on the transferees.

Improving Housing Affordability:

- **Property Transfer Tax**

- A new full exemption for new homes up to \$750,000 will save home buyers up to \$13,000.
- The cost of the exemption will be offset by increasing the property transfer tax from 2% to 3% on homes valued over \$2 million.

- **Affordable Housing**

- \$355 million by BC Housing over five years to build or renovate more than 2,000 new units of affordable housing.
- Largest single investment in affordable housing in BC history.

- **Data Collection**

- Starting summer 2016, individuals who purchase property will need to disclose citizenship or permanent residency.
- These changes will provide information on the volume of foreign investment in BC.

- **Home Renovation Tax Credit**

- Expanded to include person with disabilities.
- Provides up to \$1,000 annual to help with home renovations to improve accessibility for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Exceptional Health Care

- Today, BC leads in Canada and has some of the best health outcomes in the world – with some of the lowest per capita spending.
 - **Rated #1 in Canada**, and #3 in the world by the Conference Board of Canada.
- Over the next three fiscal years - Ministry of Health funding will increase 9.3%.
- Ministry of Health funding is increasing by **\$520 million in 2016/17**, to a total of **\$17.97 billion**. This will be more than a **100%** increase since 2000/01.
- Budget 2016 continues to add more dollars to health care with **\$3.2 billion of additional funding** overall for the Ministry of Health in the next three years compared to its 2015-16 budget.
- Since 2001, we've invested about **\$10 billion** on health sector capital projects in British Columbia.
- By the end of 2018, we'll have invested around **\$13 billion** in capital projects in British Columbia since 2001.
- Budget 2016 includes **\$2.9 billion** in health infrastructure projects.

Examples of Health Care Capital Projects:

- \$101 million for the new Centre for Mental Health and Addiction at Riverview. (Opening in 2019)
- \$325 million for a new Patient Care Tower and renovations to the existing Penticton Regional Hospital.
- \$606 million for new hospitals in the Comox Valley and Campbell River as part of the North Island Hospitals project.
- \$80 million for the first phase of the redevelopment of the Royal Inland Hospital Clinical Services Building in Kamloops.
- Over \$11 million in funding toward an ICU and electrical upgrade at East Kootenay Regional Hospital.
- \$55 million for the new Lakes District Hospital and Health Centre in Burns Lake.
- \$50 million for the Queen Charlotte/Haida Gwaii hospital replacement project.
- Over \$62 million towards the acute mental health facility, the HOpe Centre, at Lions Gate Hospital.
- \$512 million for a new critical care tower, including a new emergency department, neonatal intensive care unit and additional inpatient beds at Surrey Memorial Hospital.
- \$429 million for new patient care towers at both Vernon Jubilee Hospital and Kelowna General Hospital.
- \$381 million towards the Interior Heart and Surgical Centre at Kelowna General Hospital, to accommodate a new cardiac centre, surgical centre, laboratory and inpatient units.

Mental Health

Key Messages – Mental Health

- One in five British Columbians will be affected by a mental health or substance use problem this year.
- These are our neighbours, our co-workers, our friends, our parents, our children, ourselves.
- The mental health and substance use challenges individuals face vary greatly – from individuals who suffer from mild depression and anxiety to those who face severe mental illness and substance use.
- How we support those faced with a mental illness will vary as greatly as the illnesses and individuals themselves – education and prevention, early detection, and treatment.
- B.C. is working hard with our health authorities and other partners to meet the needs of adults, children and their families, and we invest over \$1.42 billion a year to educate, prevent and treat people with mental illness and substance use.
- We know we can't meet the needs of patients alone. We need to continue to work with our partners – our service providers, health authorities, police and the community – to provide the right care to each patient. By working together, we can better support patients on the path to recovery.

Quick Facts:

- Since 2001 we have increased:
 - Community mental health beds in B.C. by 143% (7,057), (4,940 in 2001/02 → 11,616 Sept/15).
 - Community substance use beds by 209% (1,827) (874 in 2002/03 → 2,582 March/15).
- \$1.42 billion each year to educate, prevent, and treat people with mental illness & substance abuse.
- \$3 million for primary care support, enhanced treatment research, training and clinical care.
- \$57 million for the new Joseph and Rosalie Segal Family Health Centre at VGH. (opening in 2017).
- \$38 million for the new HOpe Centre for Psychiatry and Education in North Vancouver. (Opened Dec 2014)
- \$101 million for the new Centre for Mental Health & Addictions at Riverview. (Opening in 2019)
- 2015 - \$1 million to support Kinghaven Peardonville House Society - re-integrating recovering men back into the community.
- 2015 - \$850,000 for F.O.R.C.E. Society for Kids' Mental Health.
- New 9 bed Acute Behavioural Stabilization Unit opened spring 2015 at St. Paul's.
- Opened the Granville Youth Health Centre in Vancouver
- Added 2 new ACT teams in Vancouver for a total of 5 in the community -Helping 420 individuals annually.
- \$20.25 million mental health action plan announced in 2013.

Availability for Youth

Key Messages:

- Mental illness can strike any family, but providing the right care at the right time can save a life or prevent long term mental health issues.
- Both the ministry and Fraser Health recognize the need for a short-stay unit for children and youth in need of urgent psychiatric care.
- We are very pleased to confirm that the new CAPSU is on target to open in spring of 2017.
- This is good news for Surrey families. Surrey Memorial Hospital will be the first hospital outside of BC Children's Hospital to have this type of dedicated unit.
- It will serve the entire region, nearly tripling the province's capacity to deal with children in crisis.
- Fraser Health will fund the capital cost with some funding being provided by the Surrey Hospital Foundation. The operating cost will be fully funded by Fraser Health.
- The Surrey Hospital Foundation and its donors are raising funds to support the renovation and furnishing of the facility, helping to ensure that it is state-of-the-art.

Availability for Youth

Quick Facts:

- MCFD spends \$94 million annually for children and youth mental health services – both community-based, and some residential.
- Currently, more than 28,000 children and youth receive community mental health services annually - over double than in 2013.
- 77 acute and tertiary beds across the province designated exclusively for children and youth with mental-health and substance use issues.
- Of the 77 beds, 40 beds are dedicated to children and youth at BC Children and Women's Health Centre - an increase of 60% since 2002 (from 25 in 2002 to 40 in 2013).
- 14 eating disorder treatment beds at Woodstone that serve ages 17 to 24.

Family Doctors/GP 4Me

Key Messages:

- We make no apologies for our aspirational goal. It has galvanized the health system to address this issue – and it is making a real difference for tens of thousands of patients.
- As a result of the work of local divisions of family practice under A GP for Me, more than 150,000 patients have a family doctor or belong to a primary care clinic – who wouldn't otherwise have had such access to ongoing primary care from a consistent doctor or care team.
- In three “prototype” communities – Prince George, White Rock-South Surrey and Cowichan – residents currently face little or NO wait for a family doctor.
- The work we have done through A GP for Me provides a strong foundation for the next steps to continue to improve patient access to primary care.
- Ensuring citizens have access to primary care is a challenge that is not unique to British Columbia – this issue exists across Canada.
- We will keep working to make sure that all British Columbians have access to primary care — this means expanding the use of all members of a care team, not just family physicians.

Quick Facts:

- The Divisions of Family Practice have recruited at least 170 doctors in BC since 2013 to take on new patients.
- In 2002, only 38% of 128 residents chose family medicine. Now, 49% of the 288 residents studying medicine are choosing family medicine.
 - That means we've increased the number of residents who are going into family medicine from 48 in 2002 to over 169 in 2016.
- **\$100 million** in 2014/15 for incentives to recruit and retain physicians in rural B.C.
- According to CIHI, BC had 5,808 general practitioners in 2014. That's an increase of 31% since 2001 (4,445). This compared to population growth of 14% during the same period.
- The current agreement with the Doctors of BC provided **\$67 million** in annual funding to support the General Practice Service Committee for programs like A GP for Me and other primary care programs.
- We've provided **\$40 million** in funding to Divisions of Family Practice across B.C. for the GP for Me program in the last three years.
- In 2014/15, there were 2,451 doctors practicing in rural areas in B.C. compared to 2,260 in 2010/11 – an increase of about 8%.

Contrast:

The NDP:

- Didn't build a single hospital in the 1990s
- Closed 3000 hospital beds
- Between 1993 and 1997 they eliminated nearly 1,600 full-time nursing positions
- Failed to create a single new medical school space

Surgical Wait Times

Key Messages:

- Our aging population puts significant pressure on health care resources -- This is an issue faced across Canada, but even more so in BC because of our older population.
- In spite of this, B.C. has made tremendous gains in improving access to surgeries. Compared to 14 years ago we are doing:
 - 153% more knee replacements (2,908 to 7,366)
 - 104% more hip replacements (2,739 to 5,583)
 - 57% more cataract surgeries (33,078 to 51,774)
 - 39% more angioplasties (5,258 to 7,343)
 - 36% more surgeries overall – more than 550,000 last year.
- Between June 2015 and this January, we had done over 6,000 extra surgeries – and all health authorities have added additional joint replacement surgeries.
- But there is still more we can do, that's why last year we invested an extra \$10 million to increase surgical capacity throughout BC – focusing on people who have been waiting over 40 weeks.
- In January, the Minister of Health spoke to his federal counterpart regarding the allocation of health transfers and the reality of increasing health care costs as people age.
- Our strategic priority document, *Setting Priorities for the BC Health System*, has timely access to surgery as a key area of focus.
- The ministry appointed Dr. Andy Hamilton to the Provincial Surgical Executive Committee to work on a long term strategy for surgical services, with new ways of approaching policies and management across the system to improve access for patients.

Surgical Wait Times

Health Authority surgical initiatives:

- Health authorities are working to increase capacity and improve efficiencies to provide more timely access to surgeries.
- Northern Health signed a contract with the Prince George Surgical Centre, which is now doing cataract and orthopedic day care surgeries.
- Northern Health is also doing additional elective surgeries in Dawson Creek and Fort St. John when possible.
- Interior Health dedicated unused surgical time at Kelowna General Hospital for patients from throughout the region to increase the number of surgeries performed, as well as contracted the Kamloops Surgical Centre to perform extra surgeries.
- Fraser Health opened a 7th operating room at Burnaby Hospital last fall, as well working closely with doctors to ensure operating room allocations are adjusted to address wait time issues.
- Fraser Health also created a high-volume cataract centre at Chilliwack General Hospital – which can do 5,750 cataract surgeries annually.
- Island Health dedicated some operating room time at Royal Jubilee Hospital on weekends for hip fracture repairs, so patients consistently get their surgery within the 48-hour benchmark.
- Island Health uses enhanced pre-operative processes to improve turnaround time and allow for more surgeries in each operating room.
- Island Health has created a First Available Appropriate Surgeon Triage model where referrals are received through a central system and are triaged by surgeons – it ensures the patient is seen faster.
- Vancouver Coastal Health is working with provincial partners on health human resource strategies to ensure there is enough staffing to do more surgeries, as well as looking at innovative models of care.

Seniors Care

Accomplishments:

- On March 19, 2014 we appointed Isobel Mackenzie as Canada's first seniors' advocate.
- Last month, we introduced amendments to the Community care and Assisted-Living Act to meet the varying needs of people in assisted-living residences and allow them to stay in their home-like setting longer.
- As of September 2015, B.C. has 31,997 publicly subsidized residential care, family care home beds, assisted living and group home beds -- a 26% increase since June 2001 of over 6,500 beds.
- In 2014/15, health authorities reported spending over \$2.8 billion on home and community care, up \$1.3 billion 2001 – an increase of 82%.
- The ministry has made available up to \$50 million annually from 2012/13 to 2014/15 for accelerated integrated primary and community care initiatives. These initiatives include assisting seniors at risk to live safely at home and avoid future hospital emergency visits.
- The Office of the Seniors Advocate provides a strong voice for B.C. seniors and is working hard to identify solutions to systematic issues and to make recommendations to government on ways to improve care for B.C.'s aging population.

PS Darryl Plecas - Key Messages:

- The Seniors Advocate – the first one in Canada – has done great work and we appreciate the information and recommendations she has provided.
- The guidelines set out for hours of care are for planning purposes only.
- Each senior needs a care plan that is created to their individual needs and abilities – this means the not everyone will require the same number of care hours.
- The Minister of health as asked PS Darryl Plecas to work alongside the Seniors Advocate and the ministry to look into options to address different level of care needs.
- The Federal government has also made funding commitments to home and community care – which will allow us to increase the services we're able to provide in residential care.

Health Firings

Key Messages:

- The public deserves to understand what took place regarding the Ministry of Health decision to terminate a number of individuals in 2012.
- That is why the matter was referred to the ombudsperson for investigation by an all-party committee after unanimously agreeing to the terms of reference.
- The ombudsperson has begun his investigation, and I am confident the process will provide the public with a thorough review of what occurred.
- Government is cooperating fully with the investigation, and we now need to let that process unfold.
- We look forward to the ombudsperson's full review and report.

Ombudsperson letter to Scott Hamilton

"I appreciate that there may be interest on the part of the Committee from time to time when issues are raised publicly. However, I respectfully request that the Committee recognize the importance of my office conducting this investigation independently." – Jay Chalke, Ombudsperson, March 2, 2016

Key Messages:

- A diverse, growing economy is how we can afford to make unprecedented investments in public education.
- We're investing more in education than any past government.
- British Columbians expect their tax dollars to be used for classrooms and teaching, not administration and accounting.

Quick Facts:

- We're investing a record \$5.1 billion in K-12 public education this year.
- Total education funding is up \$110 million this year.
- Annual education funding is \$1.2 billion higher than it was in 2000/01 – a 32% increase.
- Since 2001, we've invested over \$1.4 billion in new and improved schools, including over \$500 million in seismic upgrades.
 - Built 48 new schools,
 - Replaced 70 aging schools,
 - Added space at 186 schools, and
 - Seismically upgraded 149 schools.
- The average per-pupil funding has risen by more than 42% since 2000-01. (\$6,262 to an estimated \$8,908 in 2015-16)
- The average per-pupil operating grant for the current school year is near record level— estimated at \$8,908 based on interim 2014-15 enrolment.
- According to the Conference Board of Canada (June 2014), BC's education outcomes as a whole topped all other provinces in Canada, and ranked behind only Japan and Finland.
- B.C. students rank first in the English speaking world in reading, science and math.
- In Canada, B.C. students were top ranked in reading and science, and second only to Quebec in math. (2012 PISA Tests)

Vancouver School Board

Key Messages:

- The Minister of Education had a productive meeting with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Vancouver School Board.
- We want to ensure the interests of students are put first – and we are working together to ensure that happens.
- We made a commitment to have senior ministry staff work together to that end – to look for ways the budget can be balanced by June 30 while protecting programs and services to students.
- I was pleased to hear the VSB chair is open to looking at school consolidations as part of their long range plan – it recognizes that it can make schools safer, and boost programs and services for students.

Funding

- We're investing a record \$5.1 billion in public education this year and our annual education funding is \$1.2 billion higher than it was in 2000/01 – a 32% increase.
- Funding for the VSB has risen by \$74 million (20%) since 2001-02. At the same time enrollment is down by 6,201 students (10%).
- In fact, the VSB is getting an extra \$2 million this year in funding protection because of their rapid enrollment decline this year.

Surrey →

Surrey Overcrowding:

- We work with schools district on projects based on community need – and it's clear there is a need in Surrey. That's why we are already working closely with the school district on a number of projects.
- School Districts and municipalities are in the best position to identify local needs driven by development plans and education needs. This work drives priorities for the district – priorities they bring to the Ministry.
- The Province is ready to act on getting new schools approved and we're working closely with the district to move forward.
- We're also jointly looking at innovative ways Surrey can deal with the intense pressures from growth.
- There are several major projects underway and more slated to come – the new Clayton North Secondary and additions to three elementary schools are under way – projects worth \$64.6 million. These projects will create 1,870 spaces for Surrey.
- Since 2001, we've invested more than \$337 million for 55 capital and seismic projects, and 12 site acquisitions in Surrey.
- Last year we completed Goldstone Park and Katzie elementary schools, and additions to Fraser Heights and Panorama Ridge Secondary. These projects, worth a total of \$44.2 million, created 1,160 spaces for elementary and 500 secondary spaces in Surrey.

Funding – Key Messages:

- Since 2001, we've invested more than \$337 million for 55 capital and seismic projects, and 12 site acquisitions in Surrey.
- Since 2011, we've invested more than \$93 million for 6 capital and seismic projects and 4 site acquisitions in Surrey.
- Last year we completed Goldstone Park and Katzie elementary schools, and additions to Fraser Heights and Panorama Ridge Secondary.
- These projects, worth a total of \$44.2 million, created 1,160 spaces for elementary and 500 secondary spaces in Surrey.

School District 36 (Surrey)			
School Year	Total Full-Year FTE Enrolment	Per Pupil Funding	Total Operating Funding
2001/02	60,082	\$5,804	\$348,729,413
2015/16	70,289	\$8,454	\$594,196,841
Change	10,206	\$2,650	\$245,467,428
% Change	17.0%	45.7%	70.4%

One new secondary school and three elementary school additions:

2014 Adams Road Elementary, addition under construction	\$5,640,000
2014 Morgan Elementary, Addition under construction	\$2,330,000
2014 Rosemary Heights Elementary, Addition under construction	\$1,500,000
2014 Clayton North Secondary	\$55,000,000
Total	\$64.6-million

Seismic Program – Key Messages:

- Student safety is our top priority.
- Funding is not an issue with the Seismic Mitigation Program – the money is available to address all high-risk schools in BC.
- Since 2001, we've spent or committed \$2.2 billion to seismically upgrade or replace 214 high-risk schools.
- Since 2001, we've invested over \$500 million for seismic upgrades and replacements.
- We have completed seismic mitigation to 149 schools.
- We have 40 seismic mitigation project approved to proceed to the project definition and options analysis stage – with an estimated combined value of \$750 million.

Post-Secondary

Value: We believe in making sure British Columbians are first in line for the jobs that will come.

Contrast: I won't take advice from the NDP because the last time the NDP were in power:

- They froze tuition and starved universities to the point that they couldn't create new spaces or new buildings.
- As a result, there were fewer classes, longer wait lists and higher admission grade requirements.
- "I have to say that for me personally, [free tuition] is an ideal goal." Michelle Mungall, Apr 28/12
- "...one of the problems with the previous tuition freeze...is that it didn't include additional monies for colleges and universities." – Carole James, then NDP Leader, Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce, Jan 21/05

Facts:

- Over \$7 billion each year on education and training.
 - New campus for Emily Carr University
 - New trades complex at Okanagan College
 - Renewal of Camosun trades buildings
 - New trades facility at Selkirk College
 - New trades facility at NVIT in Merrit.
- We pay 100% interest on student loans while students are in full time studies,
- BC Student Loan Forgiveness Program forgives loans for students who work 3 years in rural/northern areas
- Open Textbook Project – first province to offer students free online open textbooks helping 200,000 students a year.

Key Messages:

- A significant number of job openings are expected in B.C. by 2022 – more than 78% of jobs will require post-secondary education, and 44% of jobs will be in skilled trades and technical occupations.
- The top 60 occupations in the BC 2022 Labour Market Outlook that require post-secondary education and training range from professional, to administration, to trades, to management.
- B.C.'s Skills for Jobs Blueprint was launched on April 29, 2014 and outlines a detailed, cross-government action plan that gives students and British Columbians a clear and seamless path from school through to the workplace.
- We'll continue to work with post-secondary institutions to drive decisions using the latest labour market data to ensure training dollars and programs target in-demand occupations.
- BC's Blueprint investments in education and training position British Columbians for success in BC's diverse, strong and growing economy.

Quick Facts:

Funding/Capital

- Total operating grants provided to public post-secondary institutions increased by 41.6% – from \$1.3 billion in 2001-02 to more than \$1.8 billion in 2015-16.
- Over \$1.8 billion annually to support public post-secondary education in BC – equivalent to an average of about \$5 million a day
- Since 2001, we've invested over \$2.6 billion in capital and infrastructure projects at public post-secondary institutions in BC - with more than 1,650 capital projects throughout the province

Student Aid

- On average, BC students pay less than a third of the cost of post-secondary education.
- Comprehensive student financial assistance program helped approximately 67,000 learners in 2014-15.
- Students receive \$55 million in targeted grants, including \$32 million through the BC Completion Grant, benefiting almost 23,000 students.

Launched Open Textbooks

- BC was the first province in Canada to launch a government-sponsored open textbook project.
- More than 130 open textbooks are available through the open textbook project for use by students, faculty and staff.
- More than 11,500 students in BC have saved more than \$1.1 million with the online textbooks.

Skills for Jobs:

- Aligned \$130 million for 11,300 newly targeted student full-time equivalent spaces for in-demand training and education.
- Targeted \$14.6 million since the launch of B.C.'s Blueprint for 3,730 additional critical trades training seats throughout B.C., including:
 - 433 at BCIT
 - 275 at Camosun
 - 136 at College of New Caledonia (Prince George and Quesnel campuses)
 - 112 at College of the Rockies
 - 266 at Northwest Community College
 - 355 at Okanagan College
 - 170 at TRU (Kamloops and Williams Lake campuses)
- Provided \$17 million since the launch of BC Blueprint for 14 public post-secondary institutions to purchase new trades training equipment.
- As part of the Skills for Jobs Blueprint, we will have invested up to \$30 million By March 2018 from the Aboriginal Skills Training Development Fund.
 - Approx. 1,000 Aboriginal people have participated in LNG-related training opportunities since the launch of the fund.
- Balanced Budget 2016 invests \$906 million in infrastructure spending for PSE, skills and trades training, for projects like:
 - New campus for Emily Carr University
 - New trades complex at Okanagan College
 - Renewal of Camosun College trades buildings
 - New trades training facility at Selkirk College
 - New trades facility at NVIT in Merritt
- **BC Access Grant** of up to \$16,400 per student to learn in-demand trades.

Student Financial Assistance

Key Messages:

- Students receive \$55 million in targeted grants, including \$32 million through the BC Completion Grant, benefiting almost 23,000 students.
- Student loans are interest free during the time that students are in full time studies. Students are not required to start making repayment until six months after completion.
- B.C. public post-secondary institutions awarded over \$160 million in scholarship and bursaries in 2014/15.
- Currently, the Loan Forgiveness Program forgives 100% of BC Student Loans over a three year period when eligible professionals – such as nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, pharmacists and doctors – agree to work at a publicly funded health care facility in an underserved B.C. community.
- The BC Completion Grant reduces B.C. government student debt based on the budget for that program year, the number of eligible students, the student's loan amount and the student's assessed need.
- The BC Access Grant provides funding to encourage eligible students to attend targeted high-priority programs at eligible B.C. public post-secondary institutions.

Quick Facts:

- B.C. students pay less than one-third the cost of post-secondary education on average.
- About 70% of B.C. public post-secondary students do not use government financial assistance.
- Government pays 100% of the interest on loans for those who do borrow while students are enrolled in studies.
- Government offers a comprehensive mix of loans and grants to help students pay for their education.
- The comprehensive student financial assistance program in B.C. assisted approximately 61,000 full-time borrowers in 2014/2015:
 - 43,000 borrowers in the B.C. public system,
 - 9,000 in private, and
 - 9,000 out-of-province.
- B.C. issued approximately \$211 million in student loans during 2014-15.
- Students receive approximately \$55 million annually in targeted grants, including approximately \$32 million through the BC Completion Grant, benefiting approximately 23,000 students.
- Government has invested more than \$3.2 billion in student financial assistance since 2001 to make education more accessible.
- The Repayment Assistance Plan helps low-income borrowers manage their Canada Student Loan and B.C. Student Loan debt by reducing or eliminating monthly payments, allowing applicants to pay back what they can reasonably afford.
 - For borrowers on low income over an extended period, the student loan principal may be reduced or eliminated entirely.

Post-Secondary Student Fees

Mandatory Fees

- Public post-secondary institutions are expected to ensure programs and courses are affordable and accessible for students.
- Post-secondary boards are responsible for approving increases to mandatory fees and tuition as well as the introduction of any new fees.
- New fees can be introduced if there is new service and a clear benefit to students.
- The letter is a reminder about the scope and application of the policy around tuition and mandatory fees, and also a reminder about the tracking and reporting responsibilities of public post-secondary institutions.
- Institutions are now required to track the benefits to students of new fees as part of their annual tuition and fees reporting process to the Ministry.

Tuition Costs

- Government introduced a policy in September 2005 limiting annual tuition increases to 2%. In 2007, the policy was extended to mandatory fees.
- Undergraduate students in B.C. pay the fourth lowest average tuition in Canada at \$5,305 a year.
- A post-secondary education offers a great return on investment whether it is a diploma, trade or degree. For example, British Columbians with an undergraduate post-secondary degree can expect to earn an additional \$827,000 over their lifetime.

Search and Rescue - General Key Messages:

- We are fortunate in BC to have such a dedicated group of individuals who make serving the safety of others their passion.
- The Province works collaboratively with BCSARA to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of ground search and rescue in B.C.
- Currently, we fund 100% of operational deployment costs to help minimize the financial burden.
- In January, we provided a \$10 million in one-time funding boost to help bolster training, administrative support, and equipment renewals.
- This investment builds on the \$6.3 million that government already provides each year to cover:
 - Operational costs for deployment.
 - Training and equipment costs.
 - Insurance and liability for SAR members.
- Our government honours top British Columbians, including SAR volunteers, at our annual Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer awards, recognizing those who make significant contributions to emergency response in B.C.

Quick Facts:

- B.C. has 80 SAR teams and 2,500 volunteers.
- These teams take part in over 1,300 missions each year (compared to roughly 2,000 in all of Canada).
- The Province spends \$6.3 million on SAR annually.
 - This excludes the grants that SAR agencies like North Shore Rescue receive for equipment and other targeted expenses.

Key Messages:

- Our government values the public safety of all British Columbians.
- Everybody is in this together. It is up to all of us – individuals, businesses, governments and industry – to think about earthquake safety and preparedness.
- Since 2001, B.C. has either committed or already invested approximately \$19 billion in capital funding and seismic infrastructure upgrades. This includes:
 - Over \$4 billion in new bridge and large highway infrastructure projects, built to modern day seismic standards;
 - \$2.2 billion in seismic upgrades for 213 high-risk schools;
 - \$2.6 billion in capital projects to seismically upgrade advanced education schools; and,
 - \$10 billion for health capital spending, about half of which went toward new builds and major capital improvements that included seismic upgrading.
- We continue to work on emergency response coordination, improved notification systems, and public education.

Quick Facts:

- Since 2001, B.C. has either committed or already invested approximately \$19 billion in capital funding and seismic infrastructure upgrades. This includes:
 - Over \$4 billion in new bridge and large highway infrastructure projects, built to modern day seismic standards;
 - \$2.2 billion in seismic upgrades for 213 high-risk schools;
 - \$2.6 billion in capital projects to seismically upgrade advanced education schools; and,
 - \$10 billion for health capital spending, about half of which went toward new builds and major capital improvements that included seismic upgrading.
- Undertaken plans to provide a \$1-million provincial-level catastrophic exercise in June 2016 with partners (Exercise Coastal Response 2016)
- Invested \$95,000 in improvements to the provincial emergency notification system to help get emergency information into the hands of those that need it faster.
- Increased capacity for provincial level emergency operational co-ordination by employing 24/7 provincial duty managers to respond to emergencies.
- Launched public education initiatives, including the PreparedBC site and corresponding guides and guidance for personal and neighborhood preparation.
- Since 2000, BC has paid over \$50M in Disaster Financial Assistance to individuals and local governments.

Tofino

Key Messages:

- I want to thank the Ahousaht [a-house-aat] First Nation and the people of Tofino for their courage and quick action during this tragedy.
- I'm happy to say that we are making progress with the expansion of the hospital helipad.
- Four potential options for the helipad are currently under review by Island Health and the District of Tofino – no decision has been made at this time.
- As well, the federal government has allocated \$19 million to support negotiations with the provinces on further supporting First Nations in emergency preparedness and response.
- EMBC staff are at the table in discussions and I look forward to the options that will be provided from those discussions for us to consider.

If asked to expand on the cell coverage

Thanks to a partnership with BC Hydro, TELUS, and the All Nations Trust Company, work is underway on a new fibre network line along Highway 4 – providing security in the knowledge that they will be able to better call for help.

Lobbying

Key Messages:

- Lobbying is a legitimate activity that facilitates free and open access to Government in our Province on matters of public interest.
 - Even the current MLA for Juan de Fuca (Horgan) was a lobbyist for the gambling industry before becoming an MLA
- To ensure public transparency and openness we established B.C.'s first ever lobbyist registry in 2002.
- At the time, our Lobbyist Registry put B.C. at the front of the pack in Canada.
- In 2009, government updated the Lobbyist Registration Act and created one of the strongest regimes for lobbyist registration in the country:
 - New powers for the Registrar to conduct investigations and compel testimony and production of documents.
 - Provides tough penalties of up to \$100,000 for contraventions of the act
 - Allows the registrar to prohibit individuals from lobbying
- Any concerns about lobbying activity are handled by the Registrar, who is an independent officer of the Legislature.

Fundraising

Key Messages:

- In British Columbia, we have all rules that are parties are subject to when it comes to fundraising and donation disclosure, which are released once a year.
- As well, there are strict rules to ensure elections are fought on a level playing field – with spending limits for all parties capped at \$4.5 million, approximately \$1 per British Columbians.
- For greater transparency, I have asked the chief electoral officer to examine moving towards more frequent disclosure of donations and that work is underway.
- It's clear British Columbians are choosing to donate to the BC Liberal Party as the best choice to make the right decisions to keep B.C. strong.
- As an example, the BC Liberal Party raised more in individual donations than the NDP raised from big unions and individuals combined.

Key Messages:

- British Columbians are benefiting from our growing economy and it's our duty to inform British Columbians about services, programs and policies that they and their families may benefit from.
- Information campaigns links to gov.bc.ca where over 80 new and existing programs and services are featured.
- There are currently two active information campaigns that inform the public about government services or programs – and include:
 1. **SAY SOMETHING** – which is focused on creating awareness about the issue of sexual violence and providing access to information/resources on how to offer or get help
 2. **BC SERVICES** – which highlights three specific initiatives:
 - **BC Training and Education Savings Grant** for children born in 2006 or later
 - **Property Transfer Tax Exemption**, which saves buyers up to \$13 thousand on a new home purchase
 - **Medical Services Plan**, which is focused on providing information to seniors about MSP Premium Assistance
- As an example of how successful advertising is, the number of applications received for the BC Training and Education Savings Grant has shown a marked increase since the information campaign began.
- The average monthly registration was 974 prior to launch (Aug, Sept, Oct, 2015) and 2,343 post-launch (Nov. onward) – a 138% increase – for a total of 12,294 application.
- The fact that 12,294 applications represent 9.1% of the 135,000 kids currently eligible to apply underlines the need to create even greater awareness so families can take advantage of an important program.

Quick Facts:

- The total costs of the campaigns will be reported as part of public accounts once all expenditures are finalized.
- The budget for this campaign is \$5 million in fiscal 2015-2016.
- On average, more than 80% of the cost of a campaign goes towards purchasing ad space on the internet, radio or television, etc.
- In response to recommendations by the Office of the Auditor General – GCPE updated government core policy to ensure each advertising initiative meets the following criteria before approval:
 - Be fact-based.
 - Point to, or provide information on, government priorities, programs, services or policies.
 - Engage the public, providing an opportunity to interact or comment.

Anti-Money Laundering - Steps taken to-date:

- Promoting the use of cash alternatives such as debit cards, convenience cheques and patron gaming fund accounts.
- Requiring casino chips only be used at a single facility and restricting the passing of chips on casino floors.
- Restrictions on the ability of patrons to exchange small bills for large currency denominations.
- Ensuring any activities that raise concerns result in a temporary ban while the concerns are investigated.
- Enhancing the Province's ability to analyse large and suspicious cash transactions that are being reported to FINTRAC.
- Increased presence in gaming facilities by GPEB and BCLC staff who monitor activity and proactively work with law enforcement to prevent money laundering and the use of proceeds of crime.

Illegal Gaming Joint Policing Unit – Key Messages:

- Illegal activities like money-laundering undermine the lawful work BCLC does.
- That's why in 2011, we launched the BC government anti-money laundering strategy.
- These initiatives will help preserve the integrity of BC's gaming industry by disrupting organized crime from using gaming facilities to legalize the proceeds of their crimes.
- In April, as part of Phase 3, we announced we're partnering with the BC's anti-gang agency on a co-ordinated investigation.
- The joint investigation will grow to become two operational teams – consisting of 22 law enforcement officers and 4 investigators from Finance's gaming policy enforcement branch.
- With a dedicated, integrated, and coordinated multi-jurisdictional investigation we will put a stop to these illegal activities.

Goal 4: Government is successful in achieving its intergovernmental relations objectives

Objective 4.1: British Columbia's priorities are advanced through leadership in intergovernmental, bilateral and multilateral partnerships and international relations.

Results for 2014/15 include:

- **Bilateral inter-provincial cooperation:** British Columbia participated in productive bilateral Premier-to-Premier discussions throughout the year. The results included:
 - a Mutual Recognition Agreement with Alberta, making it easier for oil and gas companies to operate in both provinces without having to be a resident or to have an agent resident in the other province (February 2015);
 - a BC-New Brunswick cooperation arrangement on Apprentice Mobility to help apprentices move freely between the two provinces to take advantage of job opportunities while working toward their Red Seal certificate (August 2014);
 - a BC-Saskatchewan cooperative arrangement to remove barriers to internal trade in Canadian wine and craft spirits (August 2014); and
 - working meetings with other Premiers to discuss responsible energy development, natural resource exports to the Asia Pacific, partnerships with First Nations, and climate policy.
- **Multilateral inter-provincial cooperation:** British Columbia continues to play an important role in the work of the Council of the Federation, the New West Partnership, and the Western Premiers Conference. During 2014/15, Canada's Premiers agreed to:
 - strengthen and modernize the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT);
 - share information on ways to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in care;
 - develop an apprenticeship mobility protocol, to make it easier for apprentices to move between provinces and territories while they complete their certification; and
 - lend their support to the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (which took place on February 27, 2015 in Ottawa).

Also, during 2014/15, New West Partnership Premiers established a simpler process to resolve complaints related to government procurement, and hosted a

Transportation Infrastructure Summit to explore ways to improve the long-term efficiency, reliability and competitiveness of western Canada's transportation system.

- **Cooperation with the federal government:** British Columbia engaged the federal government throughout the year on a range of issues important to the province. Federal initiatives of particular benefit to BC included:
 - **Accelerated Capital Cost Allowance for LNG Facilities** – The federal tax relief for Canadian LNG export terminals will support BC in our efforts to attract foreign direct investment, and will help to ensure that LNG companies reach their final investment decisions.
 - **MOU on Strong Resource Economy** – The MOU affirms the commitment of both the BC government and the federal government to work together, as well as with other partners, to develop the workforce BC's resource industry needs.
 - **Canada Job Grant** – BC and the federal government signed an agreement on March 31, 2014 to implement the new funding arrangement for Canada Job Fund Agreements. The Canada Job Grant was launched in BC on October 24, 2014, and will provide up to \$15,000 per person for training costs, such as tuition and training materials (up to \$10,000 from the federal government and \$5,000 from employers).
 - **Canada's designation as a renminbi (RMB) trading hub** – China's decision to designate Canada as a RMB trading hub will make it easier for BC businesses to do business with China. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce predicts that BC, as the leading exporter to China, will be the big winner among provinces with an additional \$9.4 billion in exports over 10 years, with most export gains expected in the forestry sector.
 - **National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy** – The 2015 federal budget promises to advance the \$35 billion national shipbuilding procurement strategy in British Columbia and Nova Scotia. It is estimated that \$10 billion will be invested into BC's shipbuilding and repair industry by 2020 with more than 4,000 projected job openings.
 - **International Maritime Centre Headquarters in Vancouver** – The federal government provided funding in the 2015 budget to help attract foreign investment into BC, facilitate foreign shipping companies and support businesses in establishing headquarters in Vancouver.
 - **Supporting Canada's national unity:** By continuing to align the implementation of the Canada-British Columbia Official Languages Agreement on French-Language Services with our provincial priorities we continue to improve access to programs and services for French speaking citizens.
- **Advocacy with the United States:** British Columbia is a leader in engaging U.S. border states and federal agencies. Our approach is seen as a model for cooperative US-Canada relations.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- **PNWER** – British Columbia engaged with other governments and private sector members of PNWER to promote BC priorities such as keeping the Canada-US border open for legitimate trade and tourism and increasing economic opportunities for BC companies in areas such as clean energy. In recognition of BC's regional leadership, PNWER held its Annual Summit in Whistler in July 2014.
- **Pacific Coast Collaborative** – the Province leveraged the shared goals and objectives set out in British Columbia's agreements with the states of California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska including the implementation of the regional jobs strategy and the action plan on climate and clean energy.
- **Environment and Climate Change** – British Columbia worked with BC stakeholders, the federal government, and US federal and state agencies to facilitate the management of transboundary environmental and resource management concerns consistent with the Province's high environmental standards and climate action leadership.
- **International engagement:** The Province cultivates relations with foreign governments through direct bilateral relations and engagement with representatives of other governments:
 - **Trade and Investment Missions** – In 2014, IGRS supported the successful Premier's missions to Southeast Asia in May, India in October and United States in December. Trade missions are an important part of British Columbia's international engagement strategy to support economic growth and job creation throughout the province.
 - **High Level Visits** – In September 2014, Premier Clark welcomed Governor ZHU Xiaodan of Guangdong Province, China, to commence the celebration of 20 years of sister province relations between BC and Guangdong. A highlight of the visit was the opening in Vancouver of Guangdong's first and only Economic and Trade Representative Office in Canada.

- **Engagement with the Consular Corps and Diplomatic Corps** – Priorities of the BC Jobs Plan in LNG, mining, trade and investment, and agriculture, were advanced by:
 - Engaging the Consular and Diplomatic corps representing 42 countries in the April 2014 Consular Corps Technical Briefing and 48 countries at the December 2014 Consular Corps Ministerial Briefing;
 - Co-ordinating the involvement of 19 members of the Consular Corps in the Lieutenant Governor's Awards for Excellence in BC Wines in July 2014; and
 - Responding to more than 200 international visit enquiries and delivering 130 visits directly. Almost half of those visits were from Asia Pacific countries including China.
- **Supporting citizen engagement:**
 - The Order of British Columbia received, processed and submitted 251 nominations for the OBC Advisory Council to review and evaluate in 2015, and 205 nominations in 2014.
 - Use of "B.C." or "British Columbia" in a name: Reviewed 257 applications, approving 206 and rejecting 51 in 2014. So far in 2015, 76 applications have been approved and 19 rejected.
 - Congratulatory messages from the Government to British Columbians: received and processed 3,064 birthday and anniversary greetings for official congratulatory messages to BC residents celebrating significant milestones in their lives.
- **Technology:** British Columbia actively advanced the use of cost-effective telepresence technology in engagements with other governments, including BC's domestic and international trade interests, approaches to Asia, and other intergovernmental priorities. IGRS also used telepresence extensively to manage cross-government coordination of BC's intergovernmental priorities.

ISSUE: Federal-Provincial Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **BC is pleased with the federal government's commitment to broad engagement with provinces and territories across a range of files.**
- **To be successful in building and diversifying the Canadian economy, governments need to work together.**
- **BC is an enthusiastic, constructive participant in cooperative efforts, with the federal government and others, to create opportunities for Canadians.**
- **We were pleased that the recent federal budget provided resources for a number of BC priorities that are also priorities of the federal government, including infrastructure, First Nations, immigration, climate action and housing.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- BC's current priorities with the federal government include:
 - softwood lumber (negotiation between Canada and the US of a renewed softwood lumber agreement that provides Canada fair access to the US market);
 - liquefied natural gas (continued federal commitment to advancing the LNG export industry, including ensuring that regulatory bodies reach timely decisions);
 - environmental assessment (ensuring that promised federal changes do not undermine progress made in recent years on "one project; one assessment" for projects which trigger both provincial and federal reviews);
 - infrastructure and public transit (BC's infrastructure priorities include transit, ensuring competitiveness of Canada's Pacific Gateway, and replacing the George Massey Tunnel);
 - trade (BC's key trade priorities are ratification of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and pursuit of trade agreements with China and India);
 - First Nations (federal engagement is needed to close the socio-economic gap and to develop and implement alternative paths to reconciliation and accommodation);
 - immigration (BC's objectives include increasing national immigration levels, avoiding decreases in economic immigration, increasing BC's Provincial Nominee Program allocation and ensuring an evidence-based and service-oriented approach to the utilization of temporary foreign workers);
 - climate action (ensuring that federal investments in infrastructure and clean tech align with BC priorities, e.g., east-west electricity transmission infrastructure); and
 - housing (encouraging more affordable housing, providing housing for vulnerable households and addressing homelessness).

ISSUE: Council of the Federation

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Council of the Federation allows provinces to work collaboratively to advance priorities of all Canadians by fostering a constructive relationship among the provinces and territories.**
- **Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski will host the 2016 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting on July 21-22, 2016 in Whitehorse.**
- **Planning for the 2016 Council of the Federation Summer Meeting is currently underway.**
- **Recent Council of the Federation initiatives include:**
 - **implementation of the Canadian Energy Strategy (Energy Ministers, led by the Premiers of Manitoba, New Brunswick, Alberta and Newfoundland);**
 - **cooperation on health care innovation, including savings on pharmaceutical procurement (Health Ministers, led by the Premiers of Ontario and Yukon);**
 - **studying ways to improve collection of Maintenance Enforcement Program payments when a payor lives in a different province or territory than the recipient (Justice Ministers, led by Premiers of BC, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland);**
 - **negotiating, along with the federal government, a comprehensive renewal of the Agreement on Internal Trade (Internal Trade Ministers, led by the Premiers of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Nova Scotia).**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Dwight Ball is the current CoF chair. His predecessor Paul Davis hosted the 2015 Summer Meeting in St. John's.
- Member fees for the Council of the Federation will rise in 2016/17 from 3 cents per Canadian to 4 cents per Canadian. BC's contribution as per 2011 census figures is \$176,002 for 2016-17, including 5% GST.

ISSUE: Western Premiers' Conference

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **BC hosted the 2016 Western Premiers' Conference on May 5-6 in Vancouver.**
- **[CHECK AGAINST FINAL OUTCOMES:] The focus of the Premiers' discussion was building and diversifying the Western economy, which is good for the whole country. Specific topics of discussion included:**
 - **energy and resource development;**
 - **climate action;**
 - **building prosperity with Aboriginal partners;**
 - **immigration;**
 - **international trade and market access; and**
 - **wildfires, floods and drought.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Western Premiers' Conference exists to establish or strengthen relationships among Premiers; to articulate the interests of Western Canada; and to influence, if not drive, the national agenda. The WPC is often used to lay the ground work for discussions at the summer Council of the Federation meeting (July 20-22, 2016 in Whitehorse).
- The WPC also deals with matters that are of immediate concern to Premiers, such as floods, wildfires or other emergencies where combining western resources can make a difference in the lives of citizens.

ISSUE: The New West Partnership

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **In April 2010, BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan launched the New West Partnership. The Partnership aims to improve competitiveness and to enable the West to market itself as one region for purposes of export development and investment attraction.**
- **BC is committed to the New West Partnership and supports the elimination of unnecessary trade barriers throughout Canada. The New West Partnership creates the largest barrier-free region in Canada.**
- **The NWP Trade Agreement has no expiry date, and remains in effect.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The New West Partnership is first a political agreement and a cooperation agreement covering many areas.
- The New West Partnership Agreement signed in 2010 had four schedules.
 - Of these, the most important, and in many ways the centerpiece of the partnership, is the NWP Trade Agreement, which has no expiry date, and remains in effect. The other three schedules expired on July 1, 2015 (the NWP International Cooperation Agreement; the NWP Innovation Agreement; and the NWP Procurement Agreement).
- From 2010 through 2014, there were four meetings of Premiers under the banner of the NWP: April 2011 in Vancouver, December 2011 in Edmonton, March 2014 conference call, and November 2014 in Regina at the NWP Transportation Infrastructure Summit.
- s.16
- The NWP Premiers have cooperated over the years on a range of initiatives, including:
 - **Domestic advocacy** - engagement with the Prime Minister on matters of common concern; pursued common positions at Western Premiers Conferences and Council of the Federation meetings.
 - **International cooperation** - joint premiers and ministers' missions to Asia; joint trade and investment office in Shanghai; joint promotions in Asian markets (complementing Alberta's agri-food sector with BC's seafood sector).
 - **Procurement** - established one-window access to NWP provincial procurement opportunities; implemented joint purchasing of public sector fleets.
 - **Apprenticeship** - established a single point of contact for apprentices in each province; undertook a comparative analysis of apprentice movements within the NWP region; engaged employers to understand issues faced when interacting with multiple apprenticeship systems; published training availability across the three provinces, etc.
 - **Trucking regulation harmonization** - ongoing work to harmonize trucking regulations across the three provinces.
 - **Vehicle inspections** - removed requirement for inspections of certain light vehicles when people move between NWP provinces.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- **Open education** - agreement to engage post-secondary education institutions in the development of open education resources to be made available across the three provinces.
- **NWP Trade Agreement enhancements** - signed Protocol of Amendment that clarifies language around labour mobility and dispute resolution provisions, and introduced a bid protest mechanism effective July 1, 2015; agreed to mutually recognize each other's basic first aid kits and review other occupational health and safety requirements that may pose challenges to businesses operating across NWP provincial boundaries.
- **Energy MOU** - In December 2010, Energy ministers from the three provinces signed an Energy Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to help facilitate the provinces' pursuit of initiatives involving energy policy, technology, regulatory, infrastructure, communications, development, marketing, conservation or utilization issues. The Energy MOU expired December 16, 2015.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: Pacific Gateway Alliance (PGA)

The Pacific Gateway Alliance is a collaborative group of public and private sector interests, tasked with implementing Canada's Pacific Gateway vision that British Columbia is North America's gateway of choice for Asia Pacific Trade.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The collaboration of the Pacific Gateway Alliance (PGA) is one of the key strengths of the Pacific Gateway and is unique within North America and the world.
- This group has been working together for over seven years to oversee the Pacific Gateway's expansion of port, rail, road and airport facilities, and implement supporting policies, performance measures and marketing initiatives.
- To carry out *Building Markets, Growing Jobs: The Pacific Gateway Transportation Strategy: 2012-2020*, the Ministry of Transportation will be looking to enhance collaboration with partners and stakeholders. The Ministry will be building on the success of the Pacific Gateway Alliance and engaging with communities, First Nations, other levels of government and the private sector on various initiatives as we move forward.
- BC chairs the Pacific Gateway Alliance, with leadership of the three western Transportation Ministers and CEOs of our national railways and major BC ports.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

The three New West Partnership premiers have tasked the Pacific Gateway Alliance with a ten point plan that will: ensure that sufficient transportation capacity and labour will be in place across the western Canadian supply chain to meet the anticipated increases in demand for western Canada's commodity exports over the next ten years; ensure the transportation system is reliable, harmonized across provincial borders, is able to respond to surges in demand; and can move goods safely.

The mandate of the PGA is to implement Canada's Pacific Gateway initiatives; provide strategic focus; and to coordinate joint and individual decision making.

The Pacific Gateway Alliance is focused on three high level goals as set out in *The Pacific Gateway Transportation Strategy: 2012-2020*:

- Building on our world class transportation network to ensure reliability, efficiency and cost effectiveness to keep goods and people moving smoothly. Investments to date have helped expand our seaports, airports, railways and roadways.
- Ensuring an attractive investment climate by supporting workforce development, fostering an attractive tax and regulatory environment, and collectively marketing BC's transportation advantages to the world.
- Enhancing collaboration with partners and stakeholders including businesses, industries, communities, First Nations, and other levels of government on a variety of new initiatives.

Additionally, the three New West Partnership premiers tasked the PGA to deliver on ten action items meant to ensure that needed capacity, operational efficiency and performance are in place throughout the western Canadian transportation trade network in order to move the anticipated increases in demand for western Canada's commodity exports over the next ten years:

- Developing a protocol to handle peak demand in the system
- Investigating incentives to increase surge capacity and supply chain innovation
- Encouraging meaningful service level agreements
- Developing a long term plan for infrastructure to meet a doubling of demand
- Adopting truly common trucking regulations
- Ensuring regulatory approvals are timely to support improvements to transportation corridors
- Ensuring strong federal government spill response capacity
- Supporting recruitment and training of key occupations in the transportation sector
- Benchmarking the performance of our transportation system

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Ensuring environmental and regulatory issues are addressed among the three provinces.

Agencies represented on the Alliance were selected as primary funding or policy/legislative agencies. Each agency has one official Ministerial or CEO level representative. Each of the three provinces is also represented by the respective Transportation Deputy Ministers.

Membership includes:

Government: British Columbia Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Alberta
Minister of Transportation, Saskatchewan Minister of Highways and
Infrastructure

Ports: Prince Rupert Port Authority and Port Metro Vancouver

Rail: CN and Canadian Pacific

The chair of the PGA is the BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

ISSUE: Pan-Canadian Framework on clean growth and climate change (from First Ministers' meeting, March 2016)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **British Columbia supports the development of a pan-Canadian framework on clean growth and climate change and is actively participating in this process.**
- **We are working hard with our FPT partners to ensure that our priorities are reflected in the Pan-Canadian Framework.**
- **BC expects the actions and achievements we have taken to be recognized in the pan-Canadian framework. The framework should provide flexibility for the provinces and territories in terms of the actions they take given the diversity of economic and other circumstances.**


BACKGROUND:

- Prime Minister Trudeau convened a First Ministers' Meeting (FMM) on March 2-3, 2016 which resulted in the Vancouver Declaration on clean growth and climate change. First Ministers committed to developing a plan to achieve Canada's international climate change commitments through a pan-Canadian framework for clean growth and climate change and to implement this framework by early 2017.
- In order to develop the pan-Canadian framework, First Ministers directed that reports be developed by four working groups – clean technology, innovation and jobs; carbon pricing mechanisms; specific mitigation opportunities; and adaptation and climate resilience. In addition, energy Ministers were asked to collaborate on specific actions being undertaken through the Canadian Energy Strategy (CES).
- British Columbia is one of the provincial co-chairs of the working group on specific mitigation opportunities, and is also participating in the other three working groups. Working groups are expected to deliver interim reports to Ministers by June 6-20, 2016, and final reports by September 8-15. Ministers will make recommendations to First Ministers in early October before a possible First Ministers Meeting in fall 2016.
- Progress on the Canadian Energy Strategy (CES) was discussed at a Provincial/Territorial Energy Ministers' meeting in February 2016. Written progress reports are due to Premiers in May 2016, and final reports are to be submitted to Premiers at the Council of the Federation summer meeting July 20-22, 2016 in Whitehorse, Yukon.

ISSUE: Canadian Energy Strategy

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The current Canadian Energy Strategy (CES) was developed by provinces and territories at the direction of Canada's Premiers, and approved by Premiers at the Council of Federation meeting in July 2015.**
- **BC's energy interests align with all the Strategy's goals and initiatives, but most directly with the work of the two committees that BC is co-chairing: Energy Efficiency and Climate Change.**
- **Energy Ministers are directing the work of all four provincial/territorial committees, and will report back to Premiers at the July 2016 Council of the Federation meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon:**
 1. **Energy Efficiency: review opportunities to expand and implement minimum energy efficiency performance policies to drive the uptake of energy efficiency improvements;**
 2. **Delivering Energy to People: identify the type, nature and quantity of energy products, by province and territory, which require new and enhanced transportation and transmission infrastructure;**
 3. **Climate Change and Transition to a Lower Carbon Economy: explore the potential of expanding market-based carbon management mechanisms across Canada, and identify opportunities to increase the effectiveness of greenhouse gas reduction programs;**

and, 

- 4. Technology and Innovation Committee: develop policies to support the development of new energy technologies.**
- A fifth Canadian Energy Strategy committee, the Pan Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Remote Communities (Task Force), was later established to find alternative ways of providing energy to remote communities not connected to the grid.**

BACKGROUND:

- Canadian Energy Strategy co-chair provinces are Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador. Manitoba oversees the functioning of all committees and provides the role of Secretariat. BC co-chairs two committees (Energy Efficiency and Climate Change) and participates in the remaining three.
- Progress on the Canadian Energy Strategy was discussed at a Provincial/Territorial Energy Ministers' meeting in February 2016. Written progress reports are due to Premiers in May 2016, and final reports are to be submitted to Premiers at the Council of the Federation summer meeting July 20-22, 2016 in Whitehorse, Yukon.
- Ongoing collaboration under the Canadian Energy Strategy advances provinces/territories' shared energy objectives, enhances citizens', stakeholders' and investors' understanding of current approaches to sustainable energy, and presents a more consistent and coherent image of Canada internationally.
- The Delivering Energy to the People Committee was divided into two sub-committees to better address issues unique to each of the two main energy streams delivered to Canadians: electricity transmission and oil and gas infrastructure distribution.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: Federal Funding for Health Care

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Our government has encouraged the federal government to adjust the funding formula for health transfers so it reflects the basic health care facts - that the cost of providing care rises with age and that the age mix differs across provinces.
- We're working with other provincial governments to advocate for changes to the Canada Health Transfer, to age-adjust the allocation formula in recognition of increased health care costs for those over 65.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Canada Health Transfer is an unconditional transfer from the federal government whose purpose is to help provincial and territorial governments fund their health care programs.
- Of the \$36.1 billion to be distributed nationally in 2016/17, cash payments to BC are expected to be about \$4.7 billion. While the Canada Health Transfer program will grow by 6% in 2016/17, BC's transfer is expected to grow slightly faster (about 6.2%) reflecting a return to above national average population growth in BC.
- In 2016/17, the Canada Health Transfer will fund 24.0% of BC's health care spending. The Canada Health Transfer covers a greater share of BC's health care spending than that of other provinces because the Province has been more successful in constraining its expenditure growth. In 2016/17, growth in health spending is expected to be 2.9%, less than half the expected 6.2% growth in BC's share of the Canada Health Transfer.
- In December 2011, the federal government announced that starting in 2017/18 and continuing to 2023/24, Canada Health Transfer growth will be tied to nominal GDP growth (estimated by Finance Canada to be about 4%), or 3%, whichever is greater.

s.16

- Since 2014/15, the Canada Health Transfer has been allocated on an equal per capita cash basis, whereas in previous years it had been allocated on an equal per capita tax-plus-cash basis. This allocation change reduced BC's share of Canada Health Transfer by over \$200 million dollars annually, an amount that has and will continue to grow over time.
- BC has argued that the allocation formula for the Canada Health Transfer should evolve to reflect the fact that health care costs increase with age and that population age distributions vary across provinces. s.16

s.16

- s.16

ISSUE: Temporary Foreign Workers in British Columbia

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training is responsible for this file.**
- **The federal Temporary Foreign Worker Program supports BC's regional labour market and economic development needs by helping employers fill critical temporary labour and skills shortages.**
- **British Columbia supports the federal government's approach that temporary foreign workers are a last resort, to be used only when domestic sources of workers are exhausted. BC also fully supports strengthening program integrity to protect temporary foreign workers.**
- **BC will continue working with the federal government to ensure access to temporary foreign workers for those employers who follow the rules and are committed to employing British Columbians and Canadians first.**
- **BC will continue monitoring the impact of the 2014 Temporary Foreign Worker Program changes and any unintended consequences for employers in the province.**
- **All workers, regardless of their immigration status, have the same rights and protections in BC, including protection under BC's labour laws, employment standards, minimum wage, and workplace safety standards.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS

- The Temporary Foreign Workers Program and the International Mobility Program are federal programs administered by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).
- Employment and Social Development Canada is responsible for issuing Labour Market Impact Assessments.

The Labour Market Impact Assessment program requires employers wanting to hire temporary foreign workers to prove that they have made reasonable attempts to fill their vacancies domestically, that no Canadians are available, and that using temporary foreign workers will not adversely affect the Canadian labour market.

- If Employment and Social Development Canada is satisfied there will be no adverse effect, the department will issue a positive Labour Market Impact Assessment to the employer. The employers can then recruit temporary foreign workers and provide them with job offers. Temporary foreign workers with a job offer must apply to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada for a work permit allowing them to enter BC to work for an identified employer.
- The International Mobility Program covers all temporary worker streams not requiring a Labour Market Impact Assessment such as intra-company transfers or transfers under trade agreements like NAFTA.
- Responding to perceived employer abuse of temporary foreign workers, the federal government made significant changes to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program in June 2014 (see Attachment One for a summary of these changes). BC continues to consult with industries and employers and to monitor and mitigate the impact of the 2014 program changes.

Temporary Foreign Workers under the 2015 Canada-British Columbia Immigration Agreement

- The 2015 Canada-BC Immigration Agreement:
 - provides BC the authority to submit proposals recommending Labour Market Impact Assessment exemptions for Significant Investment Projects (see Attachment 2). BC used its authority to continue Labour Market Impact Assessment exemptions at the Microsoft Canada Excellence Centre;
 - provides BC the authority to recommend high-wage, in-demand occupations eligible for expedited 10-day Labour Market Impact Assessment processing in support of regional economic goals or sectors such as liquefied natural gas (LNG);
 - expands the use of international workers for exceptional and unforeseen events such as natural or industrial disasters;

- provides greater temporary foreign worker protection including allowing temporary foreign workers in vulnerable employment situations to receive new work permits; and
 - enhances program integrity measures for the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and the International Mobility Program.
- The 2015 Canada-BC Immigration Agreement substantially increases the flow of information between the federal government and BC regarding immigrants, including temporary foreign workers, and commits BC and the federal government to develop enhanced information sharing arrangements.
- s.13,s.16,s.17

Temporary Foreign Worker Data for British Columbia

- Because the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and International Mobility Program are federal programs, BC relies on the federal government for data. BC receives annual data on work permits and quarterly data on Labour Market Impact Assessment applications. 2015 data will be received in mid-2016.
- Work Permits
 - In 2014, 78,538 work permits were issued to foreign nationals destined for BC, a nine per cent decrease from 2013. Three-quarters of these work permits (58,782) were for International Mobility Program streams not requiring a Labour Market Impact Assessment. 20,202 work permits were issued under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program with an Labour Market Impact Assessment (See Attachment 3).
- Labour Market Impact Assessment Applications
 - The number of approved Temporary Foreign Worker positions decreased significantly after the 2014 program changes. In the third quarter of 2014, the first full quarter following these changes, the number of approved positions declined by 45.8 per cent from the previous quarter.
 - Data for the third quarter of 2015, the most recent available, shows that the number of positive Labour Market Impact Assessment positions increased 41.6 per cent over the same quarter in 2014.
 - The Lower Mainland-Southwest economic region consistently has the highest number of approved Temporary Foreign Worker positions, followed by the Thompson-Okanagan.

- Fifteen of the twenty top employers receiving positive Labour Market Impact Assessments are in high tech, film, digital and media.
- General farm workers are the largest number of positions by occupation.

Services and Supports for Temporary Foreign Workers

- BC provides \$4 million annually for settlement services for new and potential British Columbians not otherwise eligible for federal services, including Temporary Foreign Workers, provincial nominees awaiting permanent resident status, international students, refugee claimants, and naturalized citizens.
- Temporary Foreign Workers can access information and referral services through 56 contracted service providers across BC, or through the WorkBC telephone line: 1-877-952-6914.

Temporary Foreign Worker Protections

- All workers, regardless of their immigration status, have the same rights and protections regarding housing, healthcare, transportation, justice, and human rights.
- The Employment Standards Branch works to ensure that workers, regardless of their nationality or immigration status, receive the basic standards of compensation and conditions of employment provided for in the *Employment Standards Act*. Whether a complainant is a Temporary Foreign Worker or not is irrelevant. As a result, accurate data on the number of complaints filed with the Employment Standards Branch by TFWs is not available.
- Help is available in person, on-line, or through a toll-free number. Written information about employee rights is available in English, French, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Punjabi, Hindi, Filipino, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Spanish.
- Employment Standards Branch staff conduct education and outreach programs to inform workers and employers about employment standards. These include education seminars, presentations in schools, presentations to groups of workers and employer associations, networking through community groups, and appearances on ethnic media radio programs.
- Section 10 of the *Employment Standards Act* specifically prohibits charging fees in exchange for employment in BC. TFWs cannot be required to:
 - pay for immigration assistance as a condition of being placed in a job,
 - post a bond or pay a deposit to ensure they will finish a work term or employment contract, or to pay a penalty if they do not, and,
 - pay back any costs the employer paid to an employment agency or anyone else to recruit the worker.
- Employment Agencies operating in BC must be licensed by the Director of Employment Standards. An agency charging fees to workers, or prospective workers,

violates the *Employment Standards Act* and can have its licence suspended or cancelled.

- The Employment Standards Branch is largely unable to act upon reports of recruiting agencies in other countries charging workers, or potential workers, a fee for securing employment. The *Employment Standards Act* applies only where employees are charged fees in, or by, BC-based recruiters.
- Anyone wishing to make an anonymous tip to the federal government related to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program can call 1-800-367-5693 or email: integrity@servicecanada.gc.ca.

Employer Registry for Temporary Foreign Workers

s.13

- The 2015 Foreign Workers Annex commits the federal and provincial governments to collaborate on programs and initiatives to improve Temporary Foreign Worker protections, such as enhancing Temporary Foreign Worker knowledge of and access to services and providing new work permits to those Temporary Foreign Workers whose employers are not complying with provincial or federal laws.

Attachments 1-3:

Attachment One: Summary of June 2014 TFWP changes

- *Division into Two Streams.* Temporary Foreign Workers may now work in BC under two federal programs:
 - the **Temporary Foreign Worker Program** includes all streams that require a Labour Market Impact Assessment, and
 - the **International Mobility Program** includes those streams that are exempt from the Labour Market Impact Assessment process.
- *The Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) replaced Labour Market Opinions.* Employers must provide more detailed information on efforts to hire Canadians and plans to transition to domestic workers for high-wage positions.
- *Expedited Labour Market Impact Assessment.* Ten day expedited Labour Market Impact Assessment processing for highest demand occupations such as skilled trades, highest paid occupations (top 10 percent), and short-duration occupations (120 days or less).
- *Wage-based Occupations.* Within the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, an individual's stream is now based on wage rather than National Occupation Classification skill level. Occupations that pay below the provincial/territorial median wage (in BC, \$22.00) are considered low-wage, while those paid at or above are considered high-wage.
- *Six Percent Unemployment Rule.* Employers cannot apply for Temporary Foreign Workers in the lowest skill, lowest wage occupations in accommodation, food services and retail trade sectors in economic regions of high unemployment (defined as over six per cent).
- *Cap on the Use of Temporary Foreign Workers.* Employers with ten or more employees applying for a Labour Market Impact Assessment are subject to a cap of 10 percent on the proportion of their workforce that can consist of low-wage Temporary Foreign Workers. The cap applies per worksite.
- *Shorter Work Permit Duration for Low-Wage Temporary Foreign Workers.* Low-wage Temporary Foreign Workers may now only receive one year work permits with the possibility of a one year renewal.
- *Additional Monitoring.* One in four employers of Temporary Foreign Workers will be inspected each year. A confidential tip line and an online fraud reporting tool have been offered as well as better information sharing with enforcement partners.
- *Increased Administration Fees.* The application fee has been raised from \$275 to \$1,000 per Labour Market Impact Assessment and enforcement and penalties for noncompliance have been increased.

Attachment Two: 2015 Canada-BC Immigration Agreement Significant Investment Project Criteria

6.1 A Significant Investment Project must involve a situation that is not well-suited to the Labour Market Impact Assessment process and is not captured by existing Labour Market Impact Assessment exemptions and/or work permit exemptions under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations.

A proposal for Significant Investment Project Labour Market Impact Assessment exemptions must include the following information:

- A. Objectives
- B. Description of the project activities, including a description as to whether and how they meet each of the following criteria:
 - i. Involve Highly Mobile Capital whose labour is drawn from a global talent pool;
 - ii. Result in a quantifiable significant investment in the BC economy;
 - iii. Demonstrate local government support;
 - iv. Limited to High Wage Occupations;
 - v. No significant displacement of employment of Canadians and permanent residents;
 - vi. Employers participating in the project will remain in compliance with any applicable federal or provincial laws; and
 - vii. Result in knowledge transfer to Canadians and permanent residents (where applicable).

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

Attachment Three: Work Permits Issued Annually to Foreign Nationals

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% change from previous year
Temporary Foreign Workers with LMIA	19,681	20,259	24,148	24,524	20,202	-17.6%
Live-In Caregivers	4,717	4,442	4,120	3,305	3,659	10.7%
Agricultural Workers	3,645	3,776	4,950	5,462	5,838	6.9%
Other Temporary Foreign Workers with LMIA	11,330	12,047	15,094	15,783	10,728	-32.0%
International Mobility Program Participants	51,832	59,255	60,085	62,202	58,782	-5.5%
Agreements	4,862	6,185	6,847	6,960	6,128	-12.0%
Canadian Interests	41,139	45,233	47,477	51,004	48,818	-4.3%
Self-support	2,244	2,023	1,376	630	588	-6.7%
PR Applicants in Canada	3,566	5,851	4,449	3,740	3,321	-11.2%
Humanitarian reason	86	103	94	73	52	-28.8%
Other IMP Participants	24		7		5	NA
Grand Total	71,247	78,483	83,642	86,164	78,538	-8.9%

ISSUE: Syrian Refugee Resettlement in B.C.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- As a province, we are proud of the generosity shown by British Columbians in response to the federal government's commitment to resettle over 25,000 Syrian refugees to Canada.
- Since September, the Province has been actively working to prepare for the arrival of these refugees.
- Between November 4 and March 30¹, B.C. welcomed 2,300 Syrian refugees to 45 communities. Over 60 per cent have been children and youth aged 21 and under.
- The Province remains committed to encouraging all newcomers to settle in communities across the provinces, where there are job opportunities and available housing.
- All refugees who are resettled to Canada arrive as permanent residents and are eligible for provincial services such as MSP coverage, school enrolment, employment programs, child care subsidy.
- B.C. has established a \$1 million Refugee Resettlement Fund to enhance federal and provincial refugee programs and to provide additional resources for communities and private sponsors who are bringing refugees to B.C.
- In addition, a \$1 million Refugee Fund has been made available through the Canada-BC Job Grant to support refugees' entry into the workforce as soon as possible.
- Approximately 385 refugees have arrived in communities outside of the Lower Mainland. The Province remains committed to encouraging all newcomers to relocate to areas of the province where there are employment and housing opportunities.

¹ The highlighted data changes daily and was revised 'as of March 30, 2016.

BACKGROUND/STATUS:

- The federal government fulfilled its commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of February, and they have committed to resettling 45,000 total refugees in 2016.
- The Province estimates that 9 to 12 per cent of this number will arrive in B.C., or 4,500 to 5,800 from November 2015 to the end of 2016. This includes our usual intake of about 1,500 refugees from other countries (see Attachment One for data on refugee arrivals).
- Government Assisted Refugees (GARs) make up the majority of arrivals (76 per cent). GARs are settled initially in Vancouver or Victoria, where they receive settlement support through the federal Refugee Assistance Program (RAP) delivered by the Immigrant Services Society of B.C. (ISSofBC) in Vancouver or the Inter-Cultural Association (ICA) of Greater Victoria.
- In February 2016, IRCC announced that the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria would become a RAP services center and provide RAP services for refugees destined to Victoria.
- The federal government provides all GARs with up to one year of income assistance and support through RAP. The province provides refugees with education, health care, and other services available to all British Columbians.
- Privately sponsored refugees (PSRs) are settled in the same community as their sponsoring group. Sponsors agree to provide food, clothing, and housing, to arrange access to government services, and to help find employment.
- Blended Visa Office-Referred refugees (BVORs) receive 6 months of government assistance and 6 months of private sponsorship.
- Premier Clark has emphasized that the province will aim to resettle some of the refugees in communities outside of the Lower Mainland, so long as adequate services are in place to support settlement and integration.
- B.C. is working closely with the federal government and local communities to identify communities outside the Lower Mainland where GARs could be resettled. We are also working across ministries and with settlement service providers and private sponsors to assess and support receiving communities.

Refugee Readiness Fund

- Last September, B.C. committed \$1 million to organizations, communities, churches and private sponsors who are working to support Syrian refugees destined to British Columbia. The one-time investment complements existing provincial and federal services and addresses the increased demand for assistance due to the global humanitarian crisis in Syria.
- \$500,000 was direct awarded to Immigrant Services Society of B.C. (ISSofBC) for a six month contract in recognition of the urgency of refugee arrivals as well as ISSofBC's role as the only B.C. provider of federally funded services to Government Assisted Refugees. ISSofBC's efforts will provide direct support for refugees arriving in Vancouver and also resources available to sponsors across B.C.
- The remaining \$500,000 has been procured through a Call for Responses for five Refugee Response Teams, in order to proactively plan for the settlement of refugees in their communities.
- Refugee Response teams have representatives from the refugee service provider community: settlement organizations, private sponsors, churches, educators, health care providers and employers. Teams are now established in the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island, Thompson-Okanagan and Cariboo; however, the level of funding to these regions is contingent on where refugees ultimately settle.

Settlement Needs

- Based on data collected by the Province, approximately 60 per cent of arriving Syrian refugees are children and youth under age 22 and 40 percent are school age (5-18). Potentially up to 1,400 Syrian children will need to be enrolled and integrated into B.C. schools in 2016.
- There is a wide diversity of social, socioeconomic, ethnic, linguistic and religious backgrounds among refugees from Syria and the United Nations Refugee Agency has indicated that many have trauma-related health needs. The Province is coordinating a cross-ministry response to ensure that these complex needs are met.
- All refugees are immediately eligible for provincial health care, and MSP premiums will be waived for the first year. Certain refugees will also receive federal health supports (dental/vision, pharma care) through the Interim Federal Health Program.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Refugees are also supported by provincial services available to all British Columbians such as school enrolment, student aid, child care subsidies, and employment programs (see Attachment Two for a summary of provincial and federal services).
- According to B.C. service providers, English language skills among GARs from Syria have been very limited. While the federal government offers Language Instruction for New Canadians (LINC), long waitlists exist in the Lower Mainland and Victoria. The Province is pressing the federal government to reduce waitlists.
- The 2016/17 federal budget includes an additional \$56-million over three years to process new permanent residents and increase settlement programming, such as language courses and skills training. In addition, the federal government has allocated \$245 million over five years for the "identification, overseas processing, transportation, and resettlement of an additional 10,000 Syrian refugees".

Skills Match

- We know there is a lot of interest from B.C. employers to hire refugees. B.C. will leverage the \$1 million Refugee Readiness Fund, WorkBC's service locations and website, federal data on Syrian refugees' existing skills, and B.C.'s strong labour market data to help match refugees with suitable employment across the province.

ATTACHMENTS: **APPENDIX 1 - B.C. Refugee Arrival Data**
 APPENDIX 2 - Provincial and Federal Refugee Services

ISSUE: Environmental Assessment / One Project One Assessment

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Prime Minister has mandated his Ministers to review the federal environmental assessment processes.**
- **2/3 of new proposed projects in British Columbia require both a provincial environmental assessment and a federal one. This can lead to duplication and inefficiency. The Prime Minister's mandate letter recognizes that we must avoid duplication between federal and provincial processes.**
- **Since 2013, Canada and British Columbia have successfully implemented a new tool called substitution that maintains assessment standards while reducing duplication. Under substitution, there is one environmental assessment process - the provincial one - and separate federal and provincial decisions.**
- **With substitution, the assessment conducted by British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) must still meet federal requirements and federal departments; for example, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, still participate.**
- **EAO is implementing a recent BC Supreme Court decision so that provincial Ministers will render a decision on projects where the environmental assessment is being conducted by the National Energy Board, like the Trans-Mountain Expansion project. This approach is consistent with the concept of substitution.**
- **Not all projects are substituted. Projects like Pacific Northwest LNG and Murray River Coal project have concluded the provincial process but the federal process is still on-going.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Substitution

- British Columbia is the first and only jurisdiction in Canada to request and receive substitution.
- The first substituted assessment (LNG Canada) was completed within provincial and federal timelines and received both provincial and federal approval on the same day. A second project, Woodfibre LNG, also received provincial and federal approval. A total of 14 projects have been approved for substitution by the federal government.
- EAO also has an equivalency agreement with the National Energy Board (NEB). This agreement means that the NEB conducts the environmental assessment for projects such as interprovincial pipelines or transmission lines. A recent court case determined that under the agreement, provincial Ministers must also render a decision on whether to issue an environmental assessment certificate. This means that the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Natural Gas Development will have to render a decision on projects such as Northern Gateway and Trans-Mountain Expansion project. This approach is consistent with the concept of substitution.
- EAO has begun its process in response to the court's decision. The NEB is scheduled to complete its process on Kinder Morgan by May 20, 2016. The federal cabinet has indicated that following a further consultation process it will make a decision on the project by December 20, 2016.

Murray River Coal

- The Murray River Coal project is another project that requires both a federal and provincial environmental assessment. The project did not undergo a substituted environmental assessment at the Proponent's request.
- The Province issued an environmental assessment certificate on October 1, 2015. On April 13, 2015, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) released its draft Environmental Assessment Report for public comment.
- Like EAO, CEAA found that the incremental effects of the Project on caribou would be small. s.16
s.16

- s.16

Pacific Northwest LNG

- EAO and the CEAA conducted separate assessments on the Pacific Northwest LNG because the project was located on federal port authority lands. A BC Environmental Assessment Certificate was granted November 25, 2014. The provincial environmental assessment took into account the scope of assessment conducted by CEAA and focused primarily on consideration of potential effects outside of federal lands, including the sea bed administered by the Prince Rupert Port Authority.
- The federal assessment is in progress. The federal draft assessment report and associated draft conditions were released by CEAA on February 10, 2016 and a public comment period completed. The report predicts significant adverse effects on harbour porpoises and greenhouse gases. CEAA has requested additional information from the proponent related to new information the proponent submitted on March 4, 2016. The legislated timeline is paused until the information request has been satisfied and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change has granted a three-month extension to the legislated timeline.
- The provincial certificate includes eight legally-enforceable conditions. CEAA's proposed conditions are complementary to the provincial conditions. The EA Certificate includes a condition requiring a Greenhouse Gas Management Plan to address GHGs, and a condition requiring a Blasting Management Plan, a Pile Driving Management Plan, and an Environmental Monitoring Plan that would mitigate potential effects to marine life, including harbour porpoises.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: Pacific NorthWest LNG

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Pacific NorthWest LNG (PNW LNG) is proposing to build large capacity LNG facility on Lelu Island near Port Edward.
- The project's anticipated total investment of \$36 billion in BC would be the largest capital investment in BC's history, creating new jobs and securing economic growth for BC and Canada.
- The project has received major regulatory approvals including a federal export licence and its provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate; however, is still waiting for a decision on their federal environmental assessment.
- On March 11th, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) released the PNW LNG draft environmental assessment report for a 30 day public comment period. Over 4000 comments were submitted with more than 1400 comments in favour of the project.
- BC and PNW LNG continue productive engagements with Tsimshian Nations – Lax Kw'alaams, Metlakatla, Gitxaala, Kitsumkalum, Kitselas and Gitga'at First Nations – helping them understand the science in the CEAA report and to communicate that information in the community.
- The Metlakatla First Nation recently signed a pipeline benefit agreement with the Province, related to TransCanada's proposed Prince Rupert Gas Transmission pipeline project.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The proposed Pacific NorthWest LNG Limited Partnership (PNW LNG) is proposing to construct and operate a LNG facility on Lelu Island in the District of Port Edward.
- At full build-out this facility would export upwards of 18 million tonnes of LNG per annum and would include three trains each with a capacity of 6 mtpa.
- In November 2014, a provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) was issued for the project. Also in November, an EAC was granted for the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project, this pipeline will provide the feedstock gas for the project.
- In December 2014, PNW LNG signed a property tax agreement with the District of Port Edward. In the same month, Impact Benefit Agreement Term Sheets were signed with the Kitselas First Nation and Metlakatla First Nation.
- In June 2015, PNW LNG announced their conditional FID, subject to two conditions.
- In July 2015, the *Liquefied Natural Gas Project Agreements Act* was passed and the PNW LNG PDA was ratified. This satisfied the first condition for PNW LNG FID.
- The Lax Kw'alaams Band is one First Nation concerned about the PNW LNG proposal on Lelu Island. Specifically, Lax Kw'alaams is concerned about the risk PNW LNG would imposed on salmon-rearing habitat known as Flora Bank.
 - In May 2015, Lax Kw'alaams First Nation held three, non-binding, show-of-hands community votes resulting in a near-unanimous rejection of provincial and company financial benefits offered, if PNW LNG were to move forward.
 - In late 2015 the Lax Kw'alaams voted for a new Mayor, John Barry Helin. Since that time, internal discussions have been underway between the Lax Kw'alaams, provincial government and industry.
 - Community meetings resulted in the endorsement of the March 15, 2016 letter the Lax Kw'alaams put forward to CEAA. The letter outlines two conditions as prerequisite for the Lax Kw'alaams support of PNW LNG.
- In October 2015, TransCanada Corp. has received final permits from the BC Oil and Gas Commission, giving regulatory approval for the construction and operation of the Prince Rupert gas transmission (PRGT) pipeline project.
- The Federal Court of Appeal has granted a pipeline opponent leave to appeal the National Energy Board's (NEB) decision in November 2015 where the NEB had rejected the pipeline opponent's application.
- The opponent's argument is based on that the PRGT pipeline will operate together with TransCanada Pipelines' NOVA Gas Transmission Limited System North Montney pipeline, which crosses the Alberta/BC border. There is no information currently of when the appeal will be heard or how it will affect PNW LNG's project.
- The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency's (CEAA) draft environmental assessment report was out for a 30 day public review period ending on March 11, 2016. CEAA received over 34,000 comments from the public regarding the project.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Federal agencies had until March 14 to respond to PNW LNG's comments.
- The draft environmental assessment report concluded that there were significant adverse effects to harbour porpoises and related to GHG emissions (which include the upstream analysis).
- On March 4, 2016, PNW LNG provided CEAA with a response to the draft report. PNW made a number of recommendations for edits to the document with particular focus on the following: harbour porpoises; GHG emissions; proponent's proposed mitigation measures; Aboriginal consultations; and revisions to 18 of the proposed conditions.
- On March 19, CEAA requested additional information related to the March 4 draft report they received from PNW LNG.
- The information request from CEAA to PNW LNG paused the 365 day legislated timeline for a decision by the federal minister for Environment and Climate Change Canada. The legislative timeline for the project has been given an extension of three months.
- The federal government intends to make a final decision with the new timeframe, when the legislated timeline resumes. The timeline for decision was originally required by March 22, 2016.
- If the minister determines there are significant adverse effects the decision will be referred to the federal Cabinet.

Project Table

Proponent	PETRONAS (62 percent), JAPEX (10 percent), PetroleumBRUNEI (percent), Indian Oil (10 percent), SINOPEC (10 percent), Huadian (5 percent)
Location	Lelu Island (District of Port Edward)
Proposed Size	18 MTPA
Export Licence	Approved – 25 years, with annual volume of 18 million tonnes of LNG
Environmental Assessment	Provincial certificate granted November 2014 / Federal approval under consideration
Pipeline	Prince Rupert Gas Transmission
Estimated Investment	\$36 billion
Jobs	Construction peak: estimated to require 4,500 people Operation: estimated 520 jobs during operation
Latest Development	Applied for a 40 year export licence in February 2016.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

**ISSUE: Trade Disputes
(Softwood Lumber Agreement / Catalyst)**

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

Softwood Lumber Agreement

- The 2006 SLA was a managed trade agreement that provided stability and certainty to Canadian lumber producers and allowed export tax revenue to remain in Canada.
- While free trade would be better, a managed trade agreement is preferable to the uncertainty of US-calculated countervailing and anti-dumping duties on Canadian lumber imports.
- If an acceptable new agreement is not found, BC is prepared to devote the resources required to vigorously defend its forest industry against unfair US decisions in all appropriate venues.
- BC strongly supports Canada's effort to engage with the US to negotiate a new agreement to avoid this costly legal process, but not at any cost.

 **Catalyst**

Catalyst (Supercalendered Paper)

- **The Ministry of International Trade is the lead on this issue.**
- **BC takes our international trade obligations seriously and we are confident that our programs are consistent with international trade rules.**
- **We are very concerned that the US continues to apply damaging, unwarranted duty to Catalyst — 18.85 per cent — when there has been no consideration to the Catalyst-specific information submitted.**
- **We continue to actively support Catalyst to obtain relief through an expedited review by the United States Department of Commerce.**
- **BC continues to work with the Canadian government in defence of our programs and Catalyst through a NAFTA appeal.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Softwood Lumber Agreement

- The 2006 Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) between Canada and the United States came into effect October 12, 2006 and expired on October 12, 2015. As a managed trade agreement, it provided stability and certainty for Canadian lumber producers, and allowed export tax to remain in Canada.
- Over the course of the 2006 SLA, total tax revenue of over \$1.26 billion was collected and remitted to BC. The SLA tax was a “bottom loaded” tax that varied with lumber prices. It was the highest when lumber prices were low to provide US lumber producers extra protection from Canadian imports in bad markets, and dropped when lumber prices were high. The declines in SLA tax were offset by increases in stumpage revenue.
- For over a year before the 2006 SLA expired, BC and Canada supported renewal or extension of the agreement, but the US government did not engage with Canada.
- With the expiry of the 2006 SLA, we are currently in a one-year standstill period, where the US agreed not to launch a new trade case against Canadian lumber. In other words, we are in a year of free trade.
- While free trade would be better, a managed trade agreement is preferable to US led countervailing duty and anti-dumping (CVD/AD) cases where the US controls the calculations and collects the duties.
- Canadian federal and provincial governments and industry are mostly united in supporting a managed trade agreement with the US.
- In February 2016, Canadian and US government officials began exploratory talks to see if there was scope for a new agreement to avoid a financially and politically costly trade dispute between the countries on softwood lumber trade.
- If no new agreement is reached by the end of the standstill period, the US could launch a new trade case against Canadian lumber as early as October 2016. The US has the ability to impose high unwarranted duties as we have seen in the current Supercalendered Paper case. The duties will be held by the US until appeals are finalized which could take many years.
- BC strongly supports Canada's effort to engage with the US to negotiate a new agreement, but not at any cost. If that is unsuccessful, BC is prepared to defend our timber pricing system, and we have a good case.
- BC has formed a Forest Trade Policy Committee of Ministers to advise on SLA issues and negotiating strategy, and has retained Dana Hayden as chief negotiator for the province to represent the province's interests with industry, other provinces and the federal government.
- BC is the largest softwood lumber exporter in Canada, accounting for about 50% of Canada's shipments to the US. BC has a leadership role on the SLA issue within

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

Canada. The softwood lumber trade issue is a key consideration for BC's government and lumber industry.

Catalyst (Supercalendered Paper)

- A US petition in February 2015 against 'unfair subsidies' by Canadian governments to four Canadian paper producers includes BC's Catalyst and has resulted in duties of 18.85 per cent on US import of Catalyst's supercalendered paper.
- Catalyst Paper is western North America's largest producer of mechanical printing paper with customers spanning the globe. With five mills across North America and a distribution facility in strategic proximity on Canada's Pacific coast, Catalyst has a combined annual production capacity of 2.3 million tonnes.

s.13,s.16,s.17

ISSUE: Alaska Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **BC-Alaska relations in recent years have been cordial. We are both active members of PNWER.**
- **In November 2015, Alaska's Governor Walker and I signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation which reflects our commitment to work together to enhance the protection of transboundary rivers and watersheds along the border.**
- **The MOU also promotes cooperation and sharing of best practices in a number of other areas including Workforce Development and Training; Marine Transportation Reliability and Safety; Emergency Management Mutual Aid Response; Tourism; Transportation, and other areas.**
- **The MOU includes our commitment to establish a Bilateral Working Group on the Protection of Transboundary Waters to be overseen by Alaska's Lieutenant Governor and BC's Ministers of Environment and Energy and Mines.**
- **We are working with Alaska to develop a Statement of Cooperation (SOC) to operationalize this part of the MOU. The SOC seeks to define each government's involvement in the environmental assessment and permitting processes for significant projects, and the involvement of BC First Nations and Alaska's Indian Tribes.**
- **We are committed to working with Alaska on transboundary mining issues so we can continue to grow our mining industry in a way that ensures the environment is protected and safe.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The principal thrust of the Alaska-BC MOU is to establish a Bilateral Working Group on the Protection of Transboundary Waters that will be overseen by Alaska's Lieutenant Governor and British Columbia's Ministers of Environment and Energy and Mines. The Working Group will be charged with establishing a joint process to develop and implement a joint water quality monitoring program for transboundary rivers, and establishing reciprocal procedures that facilitate the invitation and on-going involvement of interested federal, provincial, and state governments and their designated scientists in environmental assessments and major permitting processes.
- The MOU also promotes cooperation and sharing best practices on Workforce Development and Training; Marine Transportation Reliability and Safety; Emergency Management Mutual Aid Response; Tourism, Transportation and Other Areas for Cooperative Action, including natural resource development; fisheries, including ocean acidification; border management, trade and investment; and climate change adaptation.
- MOU acts on concerns of Alaska Native Groups and other residents over the potential environmental impacts of BC mining projects in northwestern BC (concern over mining discharges into trans-boundary waterways and its impact on local fisheries). Premier has met with and discussed these concerns several times with the US Ambassador to Canada and the US Consul General in Vancouver, as well as responding to a letter to concerns from the American Fisheries Society, copying Governor Walker, other US federal and state political leadership, and Ambassador Heyman.
- Building on cooperation arrangements with other bordering U.S. states, the Province has previously addressed Alaskan concerns in several ways including inviting State and US federal government experts to participate in BC's environmental assessment processes. However these arrangements have never been formalized by MOU, as they are with others States, nor are widely recognized or appreciated by Alaskan stakeholders.
- In February 2015 then newly elected Governor of Alaska established a working group to review transboundary mining issues. It includes commissioners (equivalent of Ministers) of the state departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Conservation and Fish and Game, chaired by the State's Lt. Governor Byron Mallott.
- Alaska Lt. Governor made an official visit to BC on May 4-6, 2015 pursuant to his mandate from the Governor. Visit included technical briefings by staff and meetings in Victoria with the Ministers of Energy and Mines, Environment and Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; private meetings with First Nations and mining industry representatives and a tour of Mt. Polley mine site.
- The Ministers of Energy and Mines and Environment followed up the meetings with the Lieutenant Governor by letter. The letter indicated that for its part the Province is

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

prepared to discuss and agree, on a reciprocal basis, to make unprecedented arrangements for Alaskan representatives to be involved in both our environmental assessment and our major permitting processes for proposed projects in transboundary areas. The Minister of Energy and Mines visited Alaska in August 2015 for further discussions as well as engagements with Alaskan stakeholders, media and Tribes.

- Following on this letter, staff leads in IGRS and the Governor's Office engaged in developing the MOU. Following reviews with respective line departments/Ministries, the MOU was finalized and signed by the Premier and Governor on November 25, 2015.
- A Statement of Cooperation is being developed to operationalize the section of the MOU with respect to the protection of transboundary waters and will be overseen by the Bilateral Working Group. The SOC seeks to define each government's involvement in the environmental assessments and permitting for significant projects, and the involvement of BC First Nations and Alaska's Indian Tribes.
- The draft SOC has been shared with First Nations in the Transboundary region.
- Through the SOC, BC is seeking to assure stakeholders in the Transboundary region that:
 - BC is addressing the allowable margin of risk around the design, construction and management of tailings storage facilities by introducing new regulations and safety standards for tailings storage facilities, including a review of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines;
 - BC has in place robust regulatory processes for natural resource projects, including environmental assessments, permitting, compliance and enforcement; and,
 - BC has Canadian common law and constitutional law requirements to consult and accommodate First Nations.
- The Bilateral Working Group will oversee the three main components of the SOC:
 - Technical Working Group on Water Monitoring: Develop a process for collecting and sharing water quality data, from before, during and after mining and other industrial activity. There will be opportunities for collaboration among different agencies, Tribes, First Nations, local governments, industry, organizations and others, in the collection of these data, observations and related information;
 - Joint Participation in Environmental Assessments (EA) and Permitting: Formalize reciprocal procedures around the invitation and ongoing involvement of government representatives and technical staff in EAs triggered by provincial or state law; and,
 - Reporting on Mine Discharges, Operations and Closure: Identifying and sharing information on mine permitting non-compliance, design or construction deficiencies and threat or release of pollutants from mines.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- The SOC is currently being reviewed by an internal BC working group consisting of officials from the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM), the Ministry of Environment (MOE), the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO), the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat (IGRS) and Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR).
- BC has a similar MOU with the State of Montana addressing transboundary water concerns related to the Province's southeast coal mines, signed in 2010. To date, this agreement works very well.
- Other agencies, such as Environment Canada and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency are interested in the BC-Alaska discussions, as they are already partners with BC in a number of monitoring programs for transboundary rivers and regularly participate in joint federal-provincial EAs.

ISSUE: Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The Province is actively involved in the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region as part of its intergovernmental relations strategy. PNWER includes key partners in western Canada and the US Pacific Northwest.
- PNWER is a well-respected, statutory bi-national public-private partnership, with goals of strengthening relationships, finding cross-border solutions to common challenges, and advocating for regional interests.
- MLA Dan Ashton is currently Vice President of PNWER.
- PNWER's Annual Summit was held in Montana in July 2015 and will be held in Calgary in 2016. The Summit attracts 500-600 private and public sector leaders from PNWER jurisdictions and beyond.
- Our participation at the Summit in Montana provided opportunities to continue to grow our relations since the BC-Montana MOU was signed in 2010, which includes cooperation on review and planning of proposed Southeast BC mining.

BACKGROUND/STATUS:

- MLA for Penticton, Naramata, Summerland and Peachland, Dan Ashton is the Premier's representative on PNWER. The BC representative list also includes: MLA for Abbotsford, Mission Simon Gibson and MLA for Chilliwack, Laurie Throness.
- PNWER brings together legislators, private sector leaders, and communities from the region to discuss how we can work together on shared priorities, such as open and secure borders, economic development, energy, environment, and trade.
- PNWER helps advance the Province's priorities in the US through opportunities it provides to build relationships with US state legislators and to influential members of the US private sector, and through them to national governments in DC and Ottawa.
- Priorities advanced at PNWER included export opportunities for LNG, natural gas as a transportation fuel, market access for LNG and other resources, workforce development, and border efficiency.
- PNWER also provides opportunities to share facts and engage effectively with public and private sector leaders on intergovernmental issues such as the Softwood Lumber Agreement and the Columbia River Treaty review.

ISSUE: Pacific Coast Collaborative

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC) agreement, signed by the Premier of British Columbia and Governors of California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, in June 2008, forged a new partnership and a forum for leadership, cooperative action and a common voice on issues affecting the Pacific Coast region of North America.
- The PCC provides for meetings of the Governors and Premiers as necessary to advance an agenda of cooperative action and facilitate the exchange of ideas and best practices between the jurisdictions.
- The current priorities of PCC leaders are joint actions on climate change and clean energy to grow the clean economy, jobs and investment on the West Coast. These initiatives and results achieved are all reported on the shared PCC public website.
- The 2012 Leaders Forum of the PCC resulted in the 2012 West Coast Action Plan on Jobs, which outlines a series of measurable commitments by each jurisdiction to create up to 1 million jobs in the next decade in the clean economy.
- The 2013 Leaders Forum resulted in the Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy that attracted national attention in the US supporting renewed action by national governments.
- Pacific Coast Collaborative leaders were involved in promoting the “west coast success story” at the UN Climate Summit in December 2015.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The PCC agreement was signed by the Premier of BC and the Governors of Washington, Oregon and California and Alaska in June 2008. Clean energy, regional transportation, sustainable regional economy, innovation, and emergency management are the named priorities of the collaboration.
- Involvement in the PCC since 2008 has allowed the Province to participate in a framework for cooperative action and sharing of information on best practices on issues facing California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and BC. The Collaborative has been active on initiatives such as developing the green economy, promoting Clean Energy Vehicles, and investing in adaptation measures.
- Through the PCC, BC has the opportunity to further develop intergovernmental relationships to promote BC's policies to reduce GHG emissions, as well as develop the green economy.
- The comprehensive action plans and collaborative approach of the four jurisdictions can act as a model for regional action at the national and subnational levels for jurisdictions meeting their new climate commitments following COP21 in Paris in December 2015.
- **2012 Leaders Forum of the PCC**
 - Held on March 13, 2012 in Vancouver in conjunction with Globe 2012;
 - Chaired by the Governor of Washington and hosted by Premier Christy Clark, attended by former Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, and by Secretary John Laird of the California Natural Resources Agency, representing California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.;
 - Reflecting the job creation priority of all PCC leaders, a substantial data-based report was prepared for consideration that identifies opportunities for accelerated regional job creation through regional collaboration in advancing the clean economy; and
 - An initial 2012 regional jobs plan was signed based on the report that includes new joint actions on clean energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.
- **2013 Leaders Forum of the PCC**
 - Held in October 2013 in San Francisco;
 - Chaired by the Governor of California. Premier Clark participated by Telepresence. Also attended by former Oregon Governor, John Kitzhaber, and Governor Inslee of Washington and BC Minister of Environment.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Signed Action Plan on Climate and Energy. Key provisions were that the leaders agreed that all four jurisdictions will account for the costs of carbon pollution (such as a carbon tax or cap-and-trade permitting system). The leaders also committed to adopting and maintaining low carbon fuel standards in each jurisdiction, and other measures promoting zero emission vehicles, alternative fuels, and energy efficient buildings.
- Update on key actions:
 - Among the most significant commitments in the Action Plan on Climate and Energy was to develop and maintain carbon pricing and low carbon fuel policies in each jurisdiction. California and BC have moved ahead with implementation and are actively supporting Oregon and Washington as they evaluate options and introduce their own carbon pricing mechanisms.
 - Carbon Pricing: Oregon and Washington continue to work towards the implementation of programs to set a price on carbon emissions. Washington is actively developing a carbon market program and has released legislature Draft Rule for public consultation this winter.
 - Low carbon fuels: BC is continuing to implement its LCFS legislation to achieve a 10 percent reduction in provincial carbon intensity by 2020. California continues implementing its program. Oregon extended their clean fuels program at the end of 2015. Washington continues to work towards implementation of a low carbon fuel standard.
 - Electric vehicles: all PCC jurisdictions joined the West Coast Electric Fleets initiative, pledging to increase the percentage of EVs in their public and private fleets.
 - Interest from Washington State and Oregon in adopting carbon pricing mechanisms such as BC's Revenue Neutral Carbon Tax continues, and opportunities to promote this policy will exist in the years ahead, helping to reduce perceived competitiveness issues for BC-based businesses.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: Premier Clark's Trade Mission to China

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Premier Clark led an international trade mission to China from October 30 to November 7, 2015.
- The mission strengthened cultural ties between B.C. and China. The mission program centred on the 20th anniversary celebration of BC - Guangdong sister province relations.
- This anniversary represented an important milestone in diplomatic relations, and provided an opportunity to leverage additional business opportunities in this key region of China.
- The mission also advanced B.C. trade and investment objectives with the priority market of China to advance bi-lateral relations and to generate economic benefits for the province.
- BC Jobs Plan sectors focus: agrifoods, LNG, clean technology, information and communications technology and digital media.
- Over 200 business and community members joined the mission to pursue growing business opportunities in China's leading innovation centres in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Hong Kong.
- The mission to China proved to be one of the most successful to date.
- In total, 45 events and signings took place across a variety of sectors, demonstrating the diversification that is taking place in B.C.'s relationship with China.
- The total value of these agreements is estimated to exceed \$1.4 billion.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- International Trade is a key pillar of the BC Jobs Plan.
- Trade missions are an important part of British Columbia's strategy to actively diversify its international trading partners and secure the new investments that will drive job creation in every region of the province.
- The Premier's mission to China included stops in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Hong Kong.
- As China shifts to a low carbon economy, B.C. is well positioned to meet the country's growing demand for clean energy solutions and technology.
- China has already incorporated clean technology in areas such as transportation, smart grid and energy efficiency.
- These are areas where B.C. business excels, and where we know that we can leverage our cultural and economic ties to help expand trade and investment outcomes.
- The 20th anniversary celebration of BC - Guangdong sister province relations not only represented an important milestone in diplomatic relations, but provided an opportunity to leverage additional business opportunities in this, China's wealthiest province by GDP.
- B.C. and Guangdong provinces agreed to increase trade initiatives and have signed a significant memorandum of understanding (MOU) that identified climate change and low carbon development as areas for future economic cooperation.
- Two additional MOUs were also signed between B.C. and the City of Shenzhen, the first focusing on low carbon development and clean technology cooperation, and the second on trade and investment cooperation.

Costs:

- Our trade missions are cost-effective, with a minimum of support staff and travel.
- Event costs in-market are offset by corporate sponsorships to lessen fiscal impacts to the province.
- The total cost for the Premier's Mission to China was \$289,191.00.



Breakdown of cost

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

If Required, Breakdown of Mission Costs:

• **China trade mission costs:**

Lead: Premier Clark
Countries: China
Duration: 9 days (Oct. 30-Nov. 7)
Cities: Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Hong Kong

Travel costs, official delegation:	\$ 36,850
Travel costs, support staff:	\$ 23,206
Ground Transportation:	\$ 12,862
Visas:	\$ 525
Meetings and hosted functions:	\$176,101*
Gifting:	\$ 7,139**
Interpreter/translation:	<u>\$ 32,508</u>
Total mission costs:	\$289,191

Note:

Travel costs include all transportation, lodging, meals and incidental expenses.

* This is the net cost of meetings and hosted functions after applying \$132,838 in private sponsorships.

** These costs include a jade carving that was presented by Premier Clark to Guangdong Governor Zhu Xiaodan to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the B.C.-Guangdong Sister-Province Relationship. This gift demonstrates the work of B.C. Artisans.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **OUR PRIORITY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FAIR AND OPEN MARKETPLACE WHERE BC BUSINESSES CAN COMPETE WITH ANY OTHER BUSINESS IN THE WORLD.**
- **THIS DEAL ENSURES BC BUSINESSES CAN COMPETE ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM ONE OF THE 12 COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT.**
- **AS CANADA'S PACIFIC GATEWAY, OUR PROVINCE WILL BENEFIT FROM INCREASED BILATERAL TRADE BETWEEN NORTH AMERICA AND OTHER TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP MARKETS, SPURRING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION HERE AT HOME.**
- **THE AGREEMENT WILL GIVE BC EXPORTERS OF GOODS AND SERVICES NEW AND IMPROVED ACCESS TO KEY PACIFIC RIM MARKETS.**
- **THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR BC BUSINESSES COME IN SECTORS LIKE SEAFOOD, AGRIFOODS, FORESTRY, TECHNOLOGY AND MANUFACTURED GOODS, WHERE CURRENTLY HIGH TARIFFS WOULD BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.**



- **AS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE BC JOBS PLAN, WE WANT TO EXPAND TRADE WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND THIS AGREEMENT WILL GIVE US NEW MARKET ACCESS TO COUNTRIES LIKE BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND VIETNAM.**
- **THE AGREEMENT STILL REQUIRES RATIFICATION, NOW THAT IT HAS BEEN SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.**
- **WE RESPECT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S COMMITMENT TO CONSULT WITH CANADIANS ON THIS IMPORTANT AGREEMENT.**
- **GIVEN THE BENEFITS THIS AGREEMENT HOLDS FOR BC, WE HOPE THE AGREEMENT CAN BE RATIFIED IN A TIMELY MANNER.**

BACKGROUND/STATUS:

- On Feb. 3, 2016 (Feb. 4 in New Zealand) Federal Minister of International Trade Chrystia Freeland signed the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement on behalf of Canada.
- Member countries will now begin the ratification process, which could take up to two years from the date of signing.
- In Canada, the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement must be tabled in Parliament for debate for a period of 21 days after which it can be ratified by the federal government.
- It's possible that some countries that sign the agreement, including Canada, could fail to ratify the agreement.
- If two years pass and all signatories haven't ratified, the following conditions need to exist in order for the agreement to come into force:
 - At least six original signatories must ratify the agreement.
 - Those six signatories, between them, must represent 85% of the total GDP of the twelve original signatories.
- The Trans-Pacific Partnership is one of the most ambitious trade and investment initiatives being negotiated in the Asia-Pacific region and aims to enhance trade and investment, promote innovation, economic growth and development and create jobs.
- The Trans-Pacific Partnership is made up of 12-member countries: Canada, the United States, Japan, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Chile and Peru.
- This market represents more than 792 million people and a combined GDP of \$28 trillion—more than 38% of the world's economy.
- In 2014, British Columbia's domestic exports of goods to Trans-Pacific Partnership countries were \$23 billion, or roughly 64% of the province's international goods exports.
- Negotiations on the agreement concluded on Oct. 5, 2015 and on November 5, 2015, the full text was released to the public.
- The Government of Canada embarked on a TPP consultation process in January 2016. Minister of International Trade Chrystia Freeland met with Minister Wat and BC stakeholders in Vancouver on January 12, 2016 as part of this process.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

Trans-Pacific Partnership Motion

April 6, 2016

TOP MESSAGES:

- The Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement is good for BC businesses and consumers.
- The agreement is vital to the success of the BC Jobs Plan.
- As a result of the TPP:
 - BC goods exports are expected to increase by \$320 million annually
 - BC is expected to gain 2,500 jobs
 - BC's GDP could increase by as much as \$325 million annually
- It will open up new markets throughout the Pacific Rim for BC exports, creating new jobs and driving economic growth at home.
- The market is huge – Member countries have a combined GDP of \$28 trillion and a population of 800 million.
- The agreement ensures BC businesses can compete on equal footing with any other business from one of the 12 member countries.

If asked about the motion:

- We introduced this motion of support for the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement for a number of reasons.
- First of all, we want it on the record that the BC legislature supports this important agreement.
- This motion also presents an opportunity to highlight the many benefits the Trans-Pacific Partnership will have for BC businesses and consumers.
- And we want to send a strong message to the federal government that BC supports the ratification of this agreement.
- Given the benefits this agreement holds for BC, we hope it can be ratified in a timely manner.

If TPP is ratified (Benefits):

- The agreement will give BC exporters new and improved access to key Pacific Rim markets.
- As highlighted in the BC Jobs Plan, BC wants to expand trade with Southeast Asia. This agreement will give businesses new access to countries like Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam.
- The agreement covers all aspects of trade, including market access for goods and services, to investment financial services and government procurement.
- The greatest opportunities for BC businesses comes in sectors like seafood, agrifoods, forestry, technology and manufactured goods, where high tariffs would be reduced or eliminated under the agreement.
- In the service sector, BC's engineers, technicians, international education institutions and environmental services providers will all benefit from increased access to Trans-Pacific Partnership markets.

- For example, the agreement offers strong provisions on intellectual property protection and enforcement that will benefit BC innovators in important markets in Asia.
- The deal also positions BC as an economic gateway between Asia and the Americas, as BC entrepreneurs, consultants and other business service providers could benefit from member companies travelling to BC to conduct business.

Consumer benefits:

- The TPP will bring a variety of benefits to the average British Columbian.
- As consumers, British Columbians may see lower costs on goods and services that we import as a result of Canada reducing or eliminating tariffs and non-tariff barriers on foreign imports.
- And BC companies shipping their goods overseas will have greater access at lower costs to overseas markets.

If no countries ratify (status quo):

- While BC is seeing success in opening new markets in many TPP member countries, the agreement would give BC companies unprecedented access and make them more competitive in TPP markets.
- If the TPP is not implemented, BC businesses will not be able to compete on an equal footing with businesses from other member countries.
- For example, Australia already has a free trade agreement in place with Japan, which puts BC companies at a competitive disadvantage in that market.
- If the status quo were to continue, BC companies would also continue to deal with several trade barriers.

- For example, there are tariffs as high as 40% on forestry, fish and seafood, agrifoods and industrial goods in countries like Japan, Vietnam and Malaysia.
- Through the agreement, Canada was able to secure tariff eliminations that might not have been achieved without the participation of the other countries, including stronger economies like the U.S.
- And as an original member, Canada was able to ensure that the TPP text reflects existing Canadian trade practices and legislation, setting up a favourable free trade area for Canadian and BC businesses.
- BC companies are also facing uncertainty when it comes to their intellectual property being protected.
- This agreement would bring in universal rules that would give BC companies the safety and security of knowing all countries have the same intellectual property rules.
- If the agreement is not ratified, we would continue to engage with the federal government to determine next steps.

If Canada is left out of the agreement:

- If the agreement were to go ahead without Canada, the negative impacts for BC exporters would be immense.
- We forecast that BC's GDP would decrease by as much as \$197 million annually if the agreement were to go ahead without us.
- That's because our job creators, exporters and manufacturers would be cut off from selling competitively to millions of new customers around the world.
- If Canada does not join, our exporters would have to deal with tariffs and non-tariff trade barriers that are currently in effect, making us less competitive compared to other TPP markets.
- That could have a huge impact on BC exports – especially since two-thirds of our goods are shipped to TPP member countries.

Federal government position:

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- We expect the agreement to be beneficial for British Columbians over time.
- It won't happen overnight as it still has to be ratified and brought into force – and all member countries have two years – until 2017 – to ratify the agreement.
- BC respects the Government of Canada's commitment to consult with Canadians on this important agreement.
- Given the benefits this agreement holds for BC, we hope it can be ratified in a timely manner.
- By making it easier for trade and investment between Canada and Trans-Pacific Partnership member countries, for BC the key outcome of the agreement is clear: the agreement will mean more jobs and economic opportunities for British Columbians.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

**ISSUE: Canada-South Korea Free Trade Agreement
(CKFTA)**

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Ministry of International Trade is the lead on this issue.**
- **On January 1, 2015, the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement came into force. My government congratulated Canada for ratifying this free trade agreement with South Korea – Canada’s first free trade agreement with an Asian trading partner.**
- **Agreements with our Asian trade partners will generate jobs and economic opportunities for businesses, workers and investors in BC.**
- **The Government of Canada estimates this free trade agreement with South Korea could increase Canada’s exports to South Korea by 32 percent.**
- **With over 50 percent of Canada’s exports to South Korea originating in BC, a 32 percent increase in exports will have a positive impact on this province’s economy.**
- **This agreement puts BC exporters on equal footing with competitors that have already concluded free trade agreements with South Korea, including the U.S., European Union, and Australia.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Korea is BC's fourth largest export destination with \$1.8 billion in goods exported in 2015 (\$2.1 billion in 2014).
- Competitors have already achieved free trade agreements with Korea: European Union (July 2011), U.S. (March 2012), and Australia (December 2014). Without the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement, BC's exports declined as a result of loss of market share and competitive disadvantage. Now, with the Canada-Korea FTA, a level playing field and positive gains are expected for BC.
- The agreement covers virtually all aspects of Canada-South Korean trade, including goods and services, investment, government procurement, non-tariff barriers, environment and labour cooperation.
- As a result of the FTA, South Korea has removed tariffs on 81.9 per cent of goods (98.2 per cent when fully implemented) and Canada has removed tariffs on 76.4 per cent of goods (97.8 per cent of tariff lines when fully implemented).
- In addition to the tariff eliminations, the Canada-Korea FTA provides BC exporters with improved access for professional services, non-discriminatory rules for investors and improved access to \$100 billion in Korean central government procurement.
- Total BC agrifood and seafood exports to Korea increased 67 percent during the first 8 months of 2015 relative to the same 8 months in 2014 (\$20.2 million to \$33.7 million).

ISSUE: Guangdong Party Secretary Hu Chunhua visit

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **We recently had a visit to BC by Hu Chunhua, member of China's Political Bureau (Politburo) and Guangdong's Party Secretary. Party Secretary Hu was accompanied by a delegation of over 300 government and business leaders.**
- **Party Secretary Hu and I committed to pursuing cooperation on: low carbon development and clean technology, e-commerce and information communication technology (ICT), international education, and trade and investment.**
- **We had a hugely successful economic and trade forum hosted by Guangdong Province. Over 300 BC and Chinese business people attended. The forum included business matching and workshop seminars to promote cooperation in environmentally-friendly industries and products, e-commerce, and science and technology innovation.**
- **Last year, BC and Guangdong celebrated 20 years of sister province relations. It's a relationship founded on over 150 years of family and business ties.**
- **Incoming high level visits and outgoing trade missions are an important part of British Columbia's international engagement strategy to support economic growth and job creation throughout the province.**
- **High level visits and trade missions give us an upper hand by bringing us face-to-face with key stakeholders, so we can continue to nurture our existing connections and develop new ones.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Mr. HU Chunhua, Guangdong Province's Party Secretary and member of China's Political Bureau, the country's second most powerful body, visited British Columbia May 8-9, 2016 at the invitation of Premier Christy Clark. This incoming visit had two main parts: an official welcome dinner for Party Secretary Hu hosted by the Premier the evening of May 8th, and an Economic and Trade Promotion Forum hosted by PS Hu on May 9th.

• s.16

- In 2015, BC and Guangdong Province celebrated twenty years of sister-province relations. A trade mission led by Premier Clark in November was part of an action plan of activities that was signed by BC and Guangdong during the visit to British Columbia by Guangdong Governor ZHU Xiaodan in September 2014.
- Since becoming sister provinces in 1995, BC and Guangdong have pursued cooperative initiatives in a broad range of fields including climate action, low carbon development and clean technology, municipal twinning, education, agri-foods, life sciences, information communication technology, energy and mining, and transportation.
- Guangdong is China's most populous and industrialized province, an export powerhouse, and ancestral home of many British Columbians.
- During the November 2015 mission, Premier Clark and Governor ZHU signed a significant memorandum of understanding on climate change and low carbon development. Climate change cooperation will be one of the areas of cooperation advanced during Party Secretary HU's visit.
- British Columbia is at the forefront of Canada's trade relations with China. This means more jobs for British Columbians and growth for the BC economy:
 - BC is Canada's #1 exporter to China, almost doubling that of second ranked Saskatchewan.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- The Port of Vancouver is Canada's largest and busiest and third largest in North America by tonnage, supporting one in every five dollars of trade in goods that flow through our country.
- We have more Chinese air carriers flying to Vancouver International Airport than any other airport in North America.
- BC is the first foreign government to issue bonds into the Chinese renminbi (RMB) market.
- The role of Vancouver and BC as part of the Chinese RMB trading hub creates cost savings and competitive advantage for BC exporters by allowing them to conduct business in Chinese currency.
- Major Chinese enterprises have invested in our LNG and natural resource industries including CNOOC (Aurora LNG), PetroChina (LNG Canada) and SINOPEC (PNW LNG).
- Vancouver also has the major international connections and legal expertise for Chinese firms when they sign contracts with North American partners and vice versa.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

ISSUE: Taiwan

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Taiwan is an important cultural and economic partner for British Columbia in the Asia-Pacific region.**
- **At the same time, the Government of British Columbia like the federal government is respectful of the One China Policy that recognizes the People's Republic of China (PRC) as the sole legitimate Government in China.**
- **As such, British Columbia does not have official government-to-government relations with Taiwan.**
- **However, there is sufficient flexibility in the One China framework to develop non-government contacts in areas of mutual interest such as relations with businesses, private sector, etc.**
- **For instance, the Ministry of International Trade coordinates trade delegations from BC participating in trade shows such as computer exhibition shows.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Since 1970, the One China policy has recognized the People's Republic of China (PRC) as the sole legal government of China and guides federal and provincial/territorial government relations with both the PRC and Taiwan. Although Canada does not have official, government-to-government relations with Taiwan, the One China framework does provide sufficient flexibility to develop non-official contacts in a number of key areas of mutual interest.
- There is no official representation by either Canada or Taiwan in each other's territory. In Canada, Taiwan's interests are looked after by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices (TECO) which are privately incorporated enterprises.

Meetings, Conferences and other Events

- TECO representatives and officials from Taiwan may meet with British Columbia government officials provided the discussions concern economic, cultural, scientific or other matters which fall within the framework of the non-official relationship.
- Appropriate form must be followed to ensure that any meetings remain private and non-official in character, and do not promote the political objectives or symbols of the government of Taiwan.
- British Columbia officials should refer to Taiwan verbally as "Taiwan" and avoid using terms that imply sovereignty such as "country", "state" or "nation". The terms "economy", "customs territory", "island" etc. may be used.

Consular Corps Briefings

- The Government of British Columbia via its Office of Protocol hosts two briefings a year for the members of the BC Consular Corps, with the objective of strengthening government-to-government relationships. The Consular Corps represents foreign states recognized by Global Affairs Canada. As TECO is not a government entity and therefore is not part of the Consular Corps, it is not invited to the Consular Corps briefing hosted by the Office of Protocol.

Trade and Investment Promotion

- BC and Taiwan have had years of strong economic and cultural ties, and BC wishes to continue to build on this tradition.
- Ministry of International Trade staff regularly work with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) and the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) to coordinate inbound executive visits from Taiwan, and to coordinate trade delegations from BC heading to Taiwan to participate in important trade shows.
- BC is Canada's leader in trade with Taiwan. In 2015, B.C. exports accounted for nearly 40 per cent of all Canadian exports to Taiwan, followed by Ontario (20.4 per cent), Quebec (16.6 per cent), and Alberta (10.7 per cent).

ISSUE: Consular Corps Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Maintaining strong relations with the BC Consular Corps is key to advancing British Columbia's international objectives and enables the Province to highlight British Columbia as a destination for trade, investment, tourism, education and immigration.**
- **The Province works to maintain strong relations with the foreign representatives in British Columbia through regular briefings.**
- **Last year, we coordinated more than 110 visits by foreign dignitaries and officials to the Province.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Office of Protocol, within Intergovernmental Relations, is the principal point of contact for the British Columbia Consular Corps with regards to visits, courtesy calls on the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker, the Members of the Executive Council and senior Government representatives.
- Official visitors can include The Sovereign (Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II), The Governor General, Members of the Royal Family, Heads of State and Government, Foreign Ministers, Governors and Premiers, Heads of Diplomatic Missions (Ambassadors and High Commissioners), Heads of Consular Posts in Vancouver, trade missions, parliamentary delegations and government study groups and other distinguished visitors.
- The British Columbia Consular Corps comprises 30 consular posts staffed by foreign officers and 49 consular posts staffed by honorary consular officers. In total 79 countries have representation based in British Columbia.
- There are four international organizations based in British Columbia: The Commonwealth of Learning (COL), North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) and the Pacific Salmon Commission (PCS). Also, there is one "Special Office" - the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vancouver (TECO) and one "Other Offices" - HKETO - the Hong Kong (SAR) Economic and Trade Office.
- The Office of Protocol also co-ordinates and administers privileges, immunities and benefits for all international representatives posted in British Columbia.
- Protocol generally organizes two briefings per year for the Corps by ministers and senior government staff. In November 2015 there were presentations by the Ministers of Agriculture; Finance; Energy and Mines; Environment; and Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation.

ISSUE: Medal of Good Citizenship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Section 19 of the Provincial Symbols and Honours Act establishes the British Columbia Medal of Good Citizenship.**
- **Section 19 has been in place for 26 years but had not been implemented until 2015. Section 19 states that “The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may award a British Columbia Medal of Good Citizenship to recognize those persons who have acted in a particularly generous, kind or self-sacrificing manner for the common good without expectation of reward”.**
- **Launching of the Medal delivered on the February 2015 Throne Speech commitment.**
- **The Medal is an ongoing and official honour. It is managed by the Honours and Awards Secretariat in the Office of Protocol in IGRS. This is the same organization that manages the Order of British Columbia (OBC).**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Order of BC (OBC) specifically emphasizes provincial and national impact. The BC Medal of Good Citizenship honours those who made exceptional contributions to the well-being of their communities, through long-term efforts without expectation of reward. The Medal encourages the virtue of good citizenship and ensures that individuals whose lives and actions exemplify this virtue are recognized.
- Order of British Columbia Scope:
 - To recognize those persons who have served with the greatest distinction and excelled in any field of endeavour benefiting the people of the Province or elsewhere.
- Medal of Good Citizenship Scope:
 - Encourages the virtue of good citizenship and ensures that individuals whose lives and actions exemplify this virtue are recognized by the Province.
- **How the Initiative Relates to Other Jurisdictions:** Both Ontario and Saskatchewan have honours recognizing good citizenship.
- **Financial Implications:** Administering the Medal of Good Citizenship involved a one-time cost of \$1155 for developing the medal and additional fees of \$3900 for promotional material and communications. Administrative fees to carry out the selection process for 2015 amount to \$6418. The total medal package costs \$330/recipient (inclusive of Medal, miniature and lapel pin in velvet presentation box; framed message from the Premier; and official certificate in debossed presentation folder). Total medal package for posthumous presentations are \$174 (inclusive of a framed certificate and full size medal). Ongoing costs are still being determined based on logistics for consequent medal presentation ceremonies. There is no provision in the IGRS budget for any ongoing expenditures.

Implementation:

- **Timeline:** The selection committee met in November of 2015 and January 2016 and made recommendations for the first recipients. The first medal was presented posthumously to John Phare at an event at the Parliament Buildings in September of 2015. The first local ceremony was held in Parksville on March 31, 2016 honouring Joan LeMoine and another ceremony was on April 5 in Victoria honouring Judith Armstrong and Nick Marsden. Ceremonies will continue to roll out throughout the province in recipients' communities. It is expected that the presentations will be complete by the end of June.
- **Nomination intake:** Nominations are accepted year round. The selection committee will be convened at the call of the Chair. Administrative internal cut-off dates for processing may be implemented to assure operational requirements of the secretariat are met.

Who will select the Medal recipients:

Pursuant to the *British Columbia Provincial Symbols and Honours Act*, the Selection Committee consists of the following:

- (a) a Chair appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a term not exceeding four years;
- (b) up to 6 additional members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for terms not exceeding two years. The 2015/16 selection committee appointed by Cabinet consists of:
 - **The Honourable Shirley Bond**, Chair Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour
 - **Gerald Franks Furney (Liza Furney, Interpreter)**, Former Mayor, City of Port McNeill
 - **Kerry L. Cook**, Former Mayor, City of Williams Lake
 - **Dawn Martin**, Secretary and Treasurer Makra Enterprises Ltd
 - **Christopher R. Derickson**, Councillor/Consultant Westbank First Nation/Derickson Consulting
 - **Jatinder Rai**, Founder, President and CEO Response Advertising Inc

What criteria is used to select recipients:

- The legislation establishes the foundation of the medal.
- The legislation states that the selection committee may make rules governing its business.
- Terms of reference have been developed and establish criteria used to make a decision on who should receive the Medal.
- The legislation also states that persons holding public office are not eligible while they are in office. The Medal may be presented posthumously and under extenuating circumstances may be presented to groups or organizations.
- **Number of Medals each year.** Is determined each year by the selection committee.
- **Difference between the Medal, the OBC and the Community Award** – see attached chart.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

<p>Good Citizenship</p> <p>in 1989 and launched</p> <p>in a sacrificing t</p> <p>special ant 5-term</p>	<p>Community Achievement Awards</p> <p>The BC Community Achievement Foundation is an independent foundation established and endowed by the Province of British Columbia in 2003 to celebrate excellence and achievement in British Columbia and Canada. It administers the Community Achievement Awards in addition to four other awards.</p> <p>Scope:</p> <p><i>These awards will honour people who have made a significant contribution to their community through a unique achievement or outstanding service – either as a volunteer or in the course of their work – in any area that provides a benefit to the community, such as sports and recreation, arts and culture, environment, multiculturalism, healthcare, education, civic duty, business innovation, community volunteerism, and youth or seniors' leadership. However, neither the nominations nor the awards are limited to these suggested categories.</i></p> <p>http://www.bcachievement.com/community/info.php</p>	<p>Caring Canadian Award (FEDERAL)</p> <p>Created in 1995, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation. The award also highlights the fine example set by these volunteers, whose compassion and engagement are so much a part of our Canadian character. It allows us to thank them for their contributions and for the positive impact they have had on the lives of others.</p> <p>Scope:</p> <p><i>The award recognizes living Canadians and permanent residents who have made a significant, sustained, unpaid contribution to their community, in Canada or abroad.</i></p> <p>http://gg.ca/document.aspx?id=14464&lan=eng</p>
--	--	--

a's case, the Queen. Honours, by international custom, entitle the recipients to wear the "insignia" (usually medals on ers. Some honours entitle the recipients to post-nominal letters (initials after their names).

and may take the form of certificates, plaques, trophies, lapel pins and sometimes medals - although these should not

Citizenship

Medal to honour exceptional long-term contributions to their communities and to the province.

A person's conduct as a citizen.

<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-good-citizenship.htm>:

generally defined as how a citizen performs a role to become a useful member of society. This involves duties and responsibilities that may be expressed through laws and regulations, or implied through the recognition of right and wrong. Citizenship, in its general sense, is being part of a community, with the person acquiring the privileges and responsibilities of such citizenship. Particular emphasis must be made on the fact that citizenship is a privilege, and its grant is left to the discretion of the state whose citizenship is being sought.

Community Achievement

*Award to recognize people who have made a significant contribution to their community through a unique achievement or outstanding service – either as a **volunteer** or in the course of their work – in any area that provides a benefit to the community, such as sports and recreation, arts and culture, environment, multiculturalism, healthcare, education, civic duty, business innovation, community volunteerism, and youth or seniors' leadership.*

Civic virtue is the cultivation of habits of personal living that are claimed to be important for the success of the community. Civic virtue is also the dedication of citizens to the common welfare of their community even at the cost of their individual interests. The identification of the character traits that constitute civic virtue has been a major concern of political philosophy. The term *civility* refers to behavior between persons and groups that conforms to a social mode (that is, in accordance with the civil society), as itself being a foundational principle of society and law.

ISSUE: Credit Card Expenditures / Purchase Card Transactions

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Purchase card payments offer examples of discretionary spending by government in support of its business goals and the delivery of specific programs.**
- **Our government is committed to openness and transparency; this is why we publish a list of government purchasing card transactions.**
- **All purchase card transactions are reviewed to ensure charges are appropriate and in compliance with government policies and regulations.**
- **Approvals and controls are in place to ensure purchases are appropriate in the context of government business, and to protect against inadvertent or deliberate misuse.**
- **We recognize that each year there are a number of purchase card transactions that may seem unusual.**
- **Staff with purchase cards are given regular training in procedure and policy and are held accountable for responsible use of the card.**

Secondary messaging:

- The mandate of the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat is to foster, create and strengthen government-to-government relationships at the sub-national, national and international level in the name of the Province.
- Each year, our government hosts numerous incoming political, economic and tourism delegations to promote positive government-to-government relations, investment and tourism opportunities in British Columbia. It is also an occasion to promote and showcase BC products to new markets. Offering hospitality, meal functions or receptions as well as more formal working session's costs are part of the normal expense. It becomes part of the course of doing business.
- Meals are only provided for working meetings if there are no opportunities for individuals to leave (e.g., constrained timelines with foreign dignitaries).
- Transactions may include small gifts purchased for visiting delegations. It is part of internationally recognized standards and it is also part of normal protocol exchange.
- There are guidelines and approval processes in place in every ministry for all gift purchases to ensure accountability.
- With government working toward a balanced budget, all ministries scrutinize their budgets to ensure they balance and keep spending within allocated amounts.