

King, Peggy FIN:EX

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 11:37 AM
To: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Haney, Donald IGRS:EX; Smith, Grant H IGRS:EX; Luciani, Chelsie IGRS:EX; Langdon, Sarah
Subject: BC News - Statement from Premier Christy Clark on Senate appointment process

fyi

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca [mailto:noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 9:06 AM

Subject: BC News - Statement from Premier Christy Clark on Senate appointment process



Thursday, December 3, 2015

Statement from Premier Christy Clark on Senate appointment process

Premier Christy Clark has issued the following statement on the federal government's proposed Senate appointment process:

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May 10, 2016

The Honourable Maryam Monsef
Minister of Democratic Institutions
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Monsef:

Thank you for your letter updating me on the Federal Government's new approach to making Senate appointments.

Although I understand the work you are doing to establish a selection process supporting a merit-based assessment of candidates is important to you, the Government of British Columbia will not be putting forward any names for the newly established Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments.

I do, however, want to confirm to you and your colleagues that we look forward to working with the Federal Government on many other federal-provincial matters in a constructive and collaborative manner. This work has already begun with the meetings I have had with the Prime Minister, and those that my Ministers have had with their federal counterparts. The results have been effective and encouraging, and we look forward to further developing that relationship.

I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Christy Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christy" and the last name "Clark" clearly distinguishable.

Christy Clark
Premier

Minister of
Democratic Institutions



Ministre des
Institutions démocratiques

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A6

MAY 03 2016

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
P.O. Box 9041, Stn. Prov. Govt.,
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark,

As you know, I have launched a new, non-partisan, merit-based process to advise the Prime Minister on future appointments to the Senate. In that context, I am writing to a number of other premiers of provinces that currently have vacancies in the Senate to request their assistance in providing names of potential provincial members of the new Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments (the Board).

The Government has taken a two-phased approach on future Senate appointments. The Prime Minister was pleased to announce on March 18, 2016 the selection of seven new independent Senators as part of the transitional process which was initiated to make a limited number of appointments to the Senate from provinces with the most vacancies (Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba). We are now preparing to launch the next phase of the process, to fill the remaining vacancies, including the one in British Columbia. Central to the new appointments process is a Board – committed to independent and merit-based assessment of candidates, and composed of a federally-appointed chair and two other federal members, as well as two *ad hoc* provincial members. Their task is to provide the Prime Minister with a non-binding list of nominees for Senate appointment.

I am confident that the new, independent Senate appointments process will contribute to creating a less partisan and more effective institution to serve Canadians. The route that the Government has chosen enables real change to be brought to the Senate quickly, without the need for lengthy and complex constitutional negotiations.

In light of the statement that you issued on December 3, 2015, indicating that your government will not participate in the new appointments process, the Government will be proceeding to appoint two qualified British Columbians to the Board. I understand

Canada

and respect your decision not to participate in the new appointments process, but I have high hopes for collaboration with you on this file and other files in the future. I am encouraged by the commitment you also stated on December 3, 2015 to continue to work with the federal government in the many areas where we can strengthen British Columbia and Canada as a whole, together.

The collaboration of all the provinces and territories going forward would be a valuable asset in ensuring the success of this important initiative.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Maryam Monsef', with a stylized, flowing script.

Maryam Monsef, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Democratic Institutions

King, Peggy FIN:EX

From: Smith, Grant H IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 10:36 AM
To: Reimer, Neil JAG:EX
Subject: RE: Senate Appointments

Hi Neil,

As promised, here is suggested content for the Key Messages section of the note. It is based quite closely on PCC's December 3 statement (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2015PREM0094-002016>):

- The Government of British Columbia is not participating in the federal process for appointing Senators.
- Although we understand that the new selection process is important to the federal government, it does not address what's wrong with the Senate.
- The Senate is not designed to represent British Columbians or our interests at the national level.
- The Senate should be fixed or folded but we should not be distracted by it.
- BC's priority remains a strong economy and job creation. We will continue to work with the federal government in the many areas where we can strengthen our province and our country, together.

Let me know if you want to discuss further. Thanks for the opportunity to provide input.

Grant

From: Smith, Grant H IGRS:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 6:38 PM
To: Reimer, Neil JAG:EX
Subject: RE: Senate Appointments

Hi Neil,

The call for appointments for BC's vacant seat is already public – I think it was posted July 7.

For the Background section of the document, I'd recommend something along the following lines:

Background

- Senators are appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister.
- The federal government recently established an Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments, to provide the Prime Minister with non-binding short-lists of candidates for Senate seats guided by public, merit-based criteria.
- On March 18, 2016, the federal government announced seven Senate appointments made under a transitional appointment process.
- Subsequently, the Board established a permanent process under which individuals may submit applications for the Board to consider in filling vacant Senate seats. An initial application deadline of August 4, 2016 was set for twenty seats (nineteen existing vacancies and one upcoming vacancy), including one vacant BC seat.
- The Advisory Board consists of five members: three federal members plus two ad hoc members from the province or territory of any vacancy to be filled. The federal government has invited provinces and territories to propose names of these ad hoc members. BC's government has declined to put forward any names, and will not participate in the federal appointment process.

- Senate vacancies can occur due to retirement, death or resignation of a sitting Senator. Barring deaths or resignations, the next two BC vacancies due to retirement are expected on May 11, 2018 (Senator Nancy Greene Raine) and November 6, 2019 (Senator Richard Neufeld).
- In the absence of vacancies: ON and QC have 24 seats each; NB and NS have 10 seats each; BC, AB, SK, MB and NL have 6 seats each; PE has 4 seats; and the three territories have one seat each.

I think the Key Messages section should probably stick a bit closer to PCC's December 3 statement, possibly supplemented with some language from a letter she wrote to Minister Monsef on May 10. However, I'm going to double-check this and will try to get back to you tomorrow.

Grant

From: Reimer, Neil JAG:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 10:35 AM
To: Smith, Grant H IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Senate Appointments

Grant, as discussed, if you could review the key messages doc and offer any comments I would appreciate it. Our comms folks are looking to get this to the AG in the next day or two.

Thanks and please call to discuss further if you like.

From: Bianco, Catherine GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 12:31 PM
To: Reimer, Neil JAG:EX
Subject: Senate Appointments
Importance: High

Hi Neil --- We understand that there may be a 'call' for appointments to the Senate that includes B.C.'s vacant seat. Do you have any insight into that? We've drafted a key message doc (attached) that reflect language used in prior media responses – so are not sure if it's still current. Tiffany has some questions that are in the doc as well.

If you tell us this is on the horizon in the next week or so, we'd like to have the messages reviewed by you quickly.

I've also attached two pieces of correspondence that were directed to Jasmine for response. I'd also sent her the KM doc last Wednesday but haven't heard back from her.

Welcome back – sorry to jump right in.

Give me a call if you want to discuss.

Thanks.

Catherine

Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX

From: Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2016 11:28 AM
To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX
Cc: Merrifield, Katy PREM:EX; Gulsen, Gul PREM:EX
Subject: Re: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

Looks fine -

M

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Cc: Merrifield, Katy PREM:EX; Gulsen, Gul PREM:EX
Subject: RE: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

Neil has approved this text for Minister Monsef ... I will put it into the sig book unless you want me to a/p ... if you have concerns, please let me know and I will make amendments:

Thank you for your letter updating me on the Federal Government's new approach to making Senate appointments.

Although I understand the work you are doing to establish a selection process supporting a merit-based assessment of candidates is important to you, the Government of British Columbia will not be putting forward any names for the newly established Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments.

I do, however, want to confirm to you and your colleagues that we look forward to working with the Federal Government on many other federal-provincial matters in a constructive and collaborative manner. This work has already begun with the meetings I have had with the Prime Minister, and those that my Ministers have had with their federal counterparts. The results have been effective and encouraging, and we look forward to further developing that relationship.

I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your letter.

Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX

From: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX
Cc: Merrifield, Katy PREM:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX; Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Subject: RE: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

Here is what I am proposing; feel free to offer your insight/recommendations/edits; once I hear back from you, I can present the text to Katy and Ben, and then the final to Michelle C for her final approval:

Thank you for your letter updating me on the Federal Government's new approach to making Senate appointments.

Although I understand the work you are doing to establish a selection process supporting a merit-based assessment of candidates is important to you, the Government of British Columbia will not be putting forward any names for the newly established Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments. My rationale would be along the same lines as my statement of last December 3rd relating to Senate Reform.

I do, however, want to confirm to you and your colleagues that we look forward to working with the Federal Government on many other federal-provincial issues in a constructive and collaborative manner. This work has already begun with the meetings I have had with the Prime Minister, and those that my Ministers have had with their federal counterparts. The results have been effective and encouraging, and we look forward to further developing that relationship.

I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your letter.

s.22

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

From: Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 3:30 PM
To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX
Cc: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX; Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: RE: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

Netty,

Please respond and say confirm that BC will not be forwarding any names for their advisory board.

And also please confirm that we do indeed look forward to working with the federal government on many other issues in a collaborative manner.

Michele

Michele Cadario
Deputy Chief of Staff to Premier Christy Clark

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

From: ADEWIT [mailto:Antoinette.DeWit@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 11:26 AM

To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; Cadario, Michele PREM:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX

Cc: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX; Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX

Subject: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS



SENATE
ADVISORY BC IN...

asking for 2 BCERS TO BE PART OF ADVISORY BOARD

Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX

From: Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 3:30 PM
To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX
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Michele Cadario
Deputy Chief of Staff to Premier Christy Clark

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To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; Cadario, Michele PREM:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX
Cc: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX; Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX
Subject: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

asking for 2 BCERS TO BE PART OF ADVISORY BOARD

Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX

From: Cadario, Michele PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 2:23 PM
To: Gulsen, Gul PREM:EX
Subject: Fw: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS
Attachments: SENATE ADVISORY BC INPUT20160505.pdf

Pls print for me and leave on my desk.

M

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

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From: ADEWIT <Antoinette.DeWit@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 11:26 AM

To: De Wit, Antoinette PREM:EX; Cadario, Michele PREM:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX

Cc: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX; Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX

Subject: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

asking for 2 BCERS TO BE PART OF ADVISORY BOARD

Minister of
Democratic Institutions



Ministre des
Institutions démocratiques

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A6

MAY 03 2016

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
P.O. Box 9041, Stn. Prov. Govt.,
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark,

As you know, I have launched a new, non-partisan, merit-based process to advise the Prime Minister on future appointments to the Senate. In that context, I am writing to a number of other premiers of provinces that currently have vacancies in the Senate to request their assistance in providing names of potential provincial members of the new Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments (the Board).

The Government has taken a two-phased approach on future Senate appointments. The Prime Minister was pleased to announce on March 18, 2016 the selection of seven new independent Senators as part of the transitional process which was initiated to make a limited number of appointments to the Senate from provinces with the most vacancies (Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba). We are now preparing to launch the next phase of the process, to fill the remaining vacancies, including the one in British Columbia. Central to the new appointments process is a Board – committed to independent and merit-based assessment of candidates, and composed of a federally-appointed chair and two other federal members, as well as two *ad hoc* provincial members. Their task is to provide the Prime Minister with a non-binding list of nominees for Senate appointment.

I am confident that the new, independent Senate appointments process will contribute to creating a less partisan and more effective institution to serve Canadians. The route that the Government has chosen enables real change to be brought to the Senate quickly, without the need for lengthy and complex constitutional negotiations.

In light of the statement that you issued on December 3, 2015, indicating that your government will not participate in the new appointments process, the Government will be proceeding to appoint two qualified British Columbians to the Board. I understand

Canada

and respect your decision not to participate in the new appointments process, but I have high hopes for collaboration with you on this file and other files in the future. I am encouraged by the commitment you also stated on December 3, 2015 to continue to work with the federal government in the many areas where we can strengthen British Columbia and Canada as a whole, together.

The collaboration of all the provinces and territories going forward would be a valuable asset in ensuring the success of this important initiative.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Maryam Monsef', written in a cursive style.

Maryam Monsef, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Democratic Institutions

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Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2016 11:26 AM

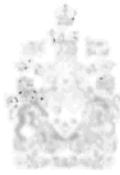
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Subject: SENATE ADVISORY MEMBERS

asking for 2 BCERS TO BE PART OF ADVISORY BOARD

Minister of
Democratic Institutions



Ministre des
Institutions démocratiques

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A6

MAY 03 2016

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Premier of British Columbia
P.O. Box 9041, Stn. Prov. Govt.,
Victoria, British Columbia
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and respect your decision not to participate in the new appointments process, but I have high hopes for collaboration with you on this file and other files in the future. I am encouraged by the commitment you also stated on December 3, 2015 to continue to work with the federal government in the many areas where we can strengthen British Columbia and Canada as a whole, together.

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Maryam Monsef, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Democratic Institutions

Gulsen, Gul PREM:EX

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I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your letter.

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 1:29 PM
To: Bailey, Ian
Cc: Oliphant, Sam PREM:EX
Subject: Re: Senate reform

No we're not looking to further pursue that. BC is going to continue to engage feds on all the areas we can build stronger, cleaner economy and jobs.

What she's saying is BC won't participate in picking senators. She understands PM campaigned on this...we just can't participate. We also understand the SCC ruling means changing or abolishing is time consuming, and unlikely to change anything (therefore her position that we won't be distracted).

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

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

Original Message
From: Bailey, Ian
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 1:22 PM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Cc: Oliphant, Sam PREM:EX
Subject: Re: Senate reform

Q-Are the premiers's comments a declaration to begin talks with Ottawa to come to a situation that would be more acceptable to the BC government?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

Original Message
From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 11:36 AM
To: Bailey, Ian
Cc: Oliphant, Sam PREM:EX
Subject: Re: Senate reform

Nope I'm afraid she's not here today, so the statement will stand for itself. It's in reference to the structural problem of 6 senators for BC as part of the western region

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

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.
From: Bailey, Ian

Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2015 11:19 AM
To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Cc: Oliphant, Sam PREM:EX
Subject: Senate reform

Hi there,

Is the premier planning to say more about her Senate views today beyond the media statement circulated earlier on?

Regards

Ian Bailey

[cid:image001.jpg@01CDC1C8.98509410]

Ian Bailey | Reporter B.C. Bureau

p: 604-631-6652 | f: 604-684-7956 | e: ibailey@globeandmail.com<<mailto:youremail@globeandmail.com>>
@ianabailey

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:09 AM
To: Kuzminski, Jason GCPE:EX; Gordon, Matt GCPE:EX
Cc: Nelson, Tiffany GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Senate

I think that the statement would need to cover...

Our focus is on creating jobs with Canada's strongest economy not lengthy constitutional talks. BC's position on Senate reform remains consistent -- that BC should have appropriate representation.

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250.588.3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Kuzminski, Jason GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:01 AM
To: Gordon, Matt GCPE:EX
Cc: Chin, Ben PREM:EX; Nelson, Tiffany GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Senate

I'm back. ^{s.22}

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 27, 2016, at 7:58 AM, Gordon, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Gordon@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Ben - Ccing Tiffany ^{s.22}

We will get on it

Matt Gordon
Assistant Deputy Minister
Corporate Priorities & Communications Operations
Government of British Columbia
250 896.4923 mobile

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 27, 2016, at 7:55 AM, Chin, Ben PREM:EX <Ben.Chin@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Coming your way. A statement if required I think, and prep for the AG in case he asks the question through shaw or Palmer in the halls

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250.588.3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

Original Message

From: O'Neil, Peter <poneil@postmedia.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 7:53 AM

To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX

Subject: Re: Senate

Okay, I will try.

On 2016-07-27, 10:51 AM, "Chin, Ben PREM:EX" <Ben.Chin@gov.bc.ca>
wrote:

I don't think so. Maybe the attorney?

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250.588.3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers
network.

From: O'Neil, Peter

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 7:32 AM

To: Chin, Ben PREM:EX

Subject: Senate

Hi Ben.

I'm trying to do a story on the implications for BC of an
increasingly

independent Senate. We spoke at dinner about BC not liking
anything that

makes a Senate where BC is so underrepresented more
powerful is a

concern. As you know the independents will have a majority
soon and

there's some speculation about how these guys are going to be more likely

to flex their muscles, though I should add that after initially challenging the assisted death bill they submitted to the will of the

House of Commons when the bill was sent back.

Would you be able today to get a quote from the premier, or from you

reflecting her views, on this concern?

Chin, Ben PREM:EX

From: Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 2:41 PM
To: Stewart, Josh JAG:EX
Subject: Re: 10:26 a.m. media call - independents in the senate

That's good.

Ben Chin
Executive Director
Communications and Issues Mgmt
Office of Premier Christy Clark
250.588.3113

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Stewart, Josh JAG:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 2:38 PM
To: Mills, Shane PREM:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: RE: 10:26 a.m. media call - independents in the senate

Any issues with the quote change?

From: Stewart, Josh JAG:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 1:05 PM
To: Mills, Shane PREM:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX
Subject: FW: 10:26 a.m. media call - independents in the senate

Quote to be changed to -- "British Columbia has the strongest economy in Canada, and our focus is on creating jobs and building prosperity, not on lengthy constitutional debates involving the Senate."

1 NEW REQUEST

Reporter – Outlet – Contact: Peter O'Neil – Vancouver Sun - poneil@postmedia.com

Request time: 8 a.m. Wed. July 27

Topic: Independent Senate – ramifications for B.C.

Deadline: 2 p.m. today; earlier if possible

Recommendation: Respond by email, attribution to Minister of Justice

Background: Reporter is trying to do a story on the implications for BC of an increasingly independent Senate.

He surmises that the independent senators will soon have a majority, and will be more likely to "flex their muscles."

Questions:

1. Is BC concerned that an institution in which we are underrepresented might become more powerful?
2. Or, is getting less partisan and more accomplished people in more important?

Response:

Statement from Attorney General and Minister of Justice Suzanne Anton:

“With Canada’s strongest economy, our focus remains on creating jobs and not lengthy constitutional talks. Our government’s position on Senate reform remains consistent – that British Columbia should have appropriate representation. We will continue to work with the federal government in the many areas where we can strengthen our province and our country, together.”