



Premier's Estimates

2017

Premier Estimates

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Current Staff		Salary	Former Staff	Public Accounts	Location		
Geoff Meggs	Chief of Staff	195,000	Victoria	Michael McDonald	Chief of Staff	195,000	Victoria
Sage Aaron	Director of Communications	125,000	Victoria	Ben Chin	Executive Director of Communications and Issues Mana	156,118	Victoria
Jen Holmwood	Deputy Director of Communications	110,000	Victoria	Katy Merrifeild	Director of Communications	105,000	Victoria
Sheena McConnell	Press Secretary	120,000	Victoria	Stephen Smart	Press Secretary	120,000	Vancouver
				Macleay Kay	Manager Communications	70,875	Victoria
				Blake Hodson	Communications Coordinator	54,720	Victoria
				Will Zylmans	Communications Officer	42,973	Victoria
				Shane Mills	Director of Issues Management	125,000	Victoria
Tamarra Wong	Executive Coordinator to Chief of Staff	70,000	Victoria	Julia Phillips	Executive Assistant to Chief of Staff	51,300	Victoria
Kate van Meer Mass	Director of Operations	125,000	Victoria	Jordan McPhee	Director of Operations	85,050	Vancouver
Amber Nash	Executive Coordinator to Premier	70,000	Victoria	Ina Gjoka	Executive Scheduling Coordinator	61,560	Victoria
Elizabeth Parkinson	Scheduling Clerk	56,000	Victoria	Kara Ross	Scheduling Clerk	45,399	Victoria
Don Privett	Administrative Assistant	41,803	Victoria	Linda Carey	Support Staff	49,433	Victoria
Judy Cavanagh	Executive Director, VCO	150,000	Vancouver	Michele Cardario	Deputy Chief of Staff	175,633	Vancouver
Mira Oreck	Director of Stakeholder Relations	120,000	Vancouver				
Charlotte Kingston	Stakeholder Manager	88,000	Vancouver	Virgina Bremner	Support Staff	48,055	Vancouver
Danny Loubert	Support Staff	48,055	Vancouver	Gul Gulsen	Executive Assistant	51,300	Vancouver
Romeo Tello	Executive Assistant	54,750	Vancouver	Wade Grant	Special Advisor	80,325	Vancouver
Bob Dewar	Special Advisor	96,000	Victoria	Carole Taylor	Special Advisor	\$1	Vancouver
Marie Della Mattia	Special Advisor	30,000	Victoria	Antoinette De Wit	Managing Director of Correspondence	89,775	Victoria
Susan Farmer	Managing Director of Correspondence	72,000	Victoria	Barinder Bhullar	Director of Policy	105,000	Vancouver
Layne Clark	Director of Liaison and Coordination	100,000	Victoria	Adam McPhee	Executive Assistant to Premier	61,500	Vancouver
Evan Brown	Executive Assistant to the Premier	54,750	Victoria				
Bruce Fogg	Executive Assistant to the Premier	60,000	Victoria				
	TOTAL	1,786,358		TOTAL		1,774,017	

Estimates Note - Office of the Premier

Responsibilities - Office of the Deputy Minister to the Premier

Don Wright, - Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary, Head of the Civil Service

Okenge Yuma Morisho - Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Affairs

Christine Kennedy, ADM – Corporate Initiatives

- In conjunction with the Deputy Minister, responsible for advancing major government initiatives

Shelley Canitz, Executive Director, Corporate Initiatives

- range of issues relating to the Deputy Ministers, the public service, and major government initiatives

Jackie Hendry, Director, Executive Operations

- administrative oversight of the Deputy Minister's Office, including budget and Freedom of Information management

Suzanne Christensen, ADM – Priorities and Accountabilities

Leila Farmer, Stephanie Papik, Jon Robinson - Directors

- Works with Ministries to ensure the government's key objectives are well designed, delivered in a timely manner and meet the commitments government made to British Columbians.
- Particular focus is on initiatives where planning and delivery reaches across organizations i.e. response to overdose crisis, home affordability
- The office also assists Ministries to coordinate policy development, decision making and with time-limited significant initiatives such as the federal government's cannabis legalization

Keira Higgins, Eleanor Mulloy, Alison Wensink

- executive administrative co-ordination

Estimates Note

Office of the Premier

Issue: Staffing Costs in the Office of the Premier

Response:

Staffing

- There is an increase of 10 FTES in this administration.
- Salaries are up approximately \$1.25 M.
- This government has a more ambitious agenda than the previous government.
- Additional central resources are needed to ensure co-ordination of the transformative elements of the planned initiatives.

Transparency in costs

- As we move forward through this fiscal year and plan for Budget 18/19, we will continue to ensure transparency in costs.
- Our goal is to have a Premier's office budget reflect the costs of operation.
- With the previous government, \$746,000 in Premier's office costs were instead covered by the Ministry of Finance for:
 - storage, postage, information management and data operations
 - work related to the Corporate HR Initiatives Fund, Pacific Carbon Trust, Council of the Federation and Pacific North West Economic Region
- With this budget, our goal is to be fully transparent with our costs – this is the budget we believe is needed for the tasks ahead.

Estimates Note

Office of the Premier

Issue: Ministry staff temporarily assigned to the transition team

Response:

Five staff were temporarily assigned from ministries to assist in transition planning:

- Donna Sanford – Senior Policy Analyst, Climate Action Secretariat
- Shelley Canitz – Director, Ministry of Health
- Rita Chand – Executive Assistant, Ministry of Finance
- Robyn Croft – Corporate Planning Officer, GCPE
- Lynne Holt – Director, Ministry of Education

Under the terms of their temporary assignment, their terms and conditions of employment did not change.

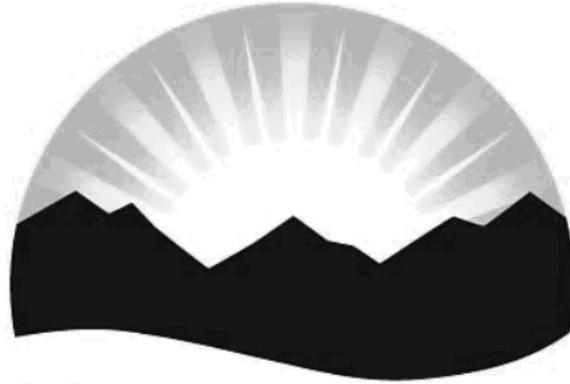
All five moved to new jobs

- Donna Sanford – Executive Director, CASA
- Shelley Canitz – Executive Director, Office of the Premier
- Rita Chand – Staffing and Development Officer, GCPE
- Robyn Croft - Manager, GCPE
- Lynne Holt – Executive Lead, Crown Agency and Board Resourcing Office

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BRITISH
COLUMBIA

CANADA

Estimates 2017

Okenge Yuma Morisho
Deputy Minister

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Office of the Premier

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ESTIMATES NOTES
OCTOBER 2017

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SERVICE PLAN 2017 / 18

Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures

It has never been more important for new leadership that works for ordinary British Columbians. As the focal point of this leadership, the Office of the Premier's goals are to help government achieve the following three commitments to British Columbians:

- The first commitment is to make life more affordable. British Columbians are counting on government to make their lives easier by containing costs and service fees.
- The second commitment is to deliver the services that people count on. Government services touch the lives of British Columbians every day, and there is so much more that we can – and must – do to provide these services where and when people need them. Additionally, in many cases, critical programs and services are delivered by Crown Corporations, and our Ministry will work with Board Chairs to improve levels of service to citizens.
- The third commitment is to build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone. Our government believes that all ministries and public sector organizations have a role to play in supporting broad-based economic growth, developing poverty reduction strategies, and helping create good-paying jobs in every region of the province.

Integrating with these priorities is government's commitment to true, lasting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia, as we move towards fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

These priorities are at the core of a progressive vision for a Better B.C. that will guide the work of each and every ministry, every day of the year.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

The Office of the Premier will continue to develop specific strategies and performance measures to support these objectives for our 2018/19 Service Plan, which will be released with *Budget 2018*.

ISSUE: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. is committed to implementing the UN Declaration, which has been adopted by 148 nations, including the federal government.**
- **The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will be working collaboratively with Indigenous people to establish a cross-government vision for reconciliation to guide the adoption of UNDRIP, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, and the Tsilhqot'in case.**
- **All ministers' mandate letters include a requirement to review policies, programs and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the declaration to life in B.C.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The key theme of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous People (April 24 to May 5, 2017), in New York was the 10th anniversary of UNDRIP and the measures that have been taken to implement the declaration.
- In a speech at the opening ceremonies Carolyn Bennett, federal minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, formally retracted Canada's concerns on "free, prior and informed consent," which was a request made by a delegate of a Canadian First Nation.
- On February 22, 2017, the Prime Minister announced the creation of a working group to review laws, policies and operational practices to help ensure the federal Crown is meeting its constitutional obligations with respect to Aboriginal and treaty rights and adhering to international human rights standards, including UNDRIP.
- On May 10, 2016, Minister Bennett formalized Canada's position on UNDRIP. She confirmed Canada is a full supporter of UNDRIP, removing previous qualifications when Canada endorsed UNDRIP in 2010.
- In B.C., some First Nations have claimed that the declaration wording on "free, prior and informed consent" (FPIC) provides them a veto over land use decisions.
- In October 2016, the First Nations Summit passed a resolution calling on B.C. to uphold Canada's "unqualified" endorsement of UNDRIP and commit to the implementation of TRC's 94 Calls to Action. They called on B.C. to follow Ontario's example on reconciliation through their "Statement of Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples" in May 2016.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

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- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action No. 41 says: “We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation.”

s.16

- The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) will work with other agencies through the provision of guidance and advice on what implementing UNDRIP may mean from a strategic perspective, to support them in meeting their mandate commitments.

ISSUE: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. is committed to implementing the UN Declaration, which has been adopted by 148 nations, including the federal government.ⁱ**
- **The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will be working collaboratively with Indigenous people to establish a cross-government vision for reconciliation to guide the adoption of UNDRIP, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, and the Tsilhqot'in case.ⁱⁱ**
- **All ministers' mandate letters include a requirement to review policies, programs and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the declaration to life in B.C.ⁱⁱⁱ**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The key theme of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous People (April 24 to May 5, 2017), in New York was the 10th anniversary of UNDRIP and the measures that have been taken to implement the declaration.^{iv}
- In a speech at the opening ceremonies Carolyn Bennett, federal minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, formally retracted Canada's concerns on "free, prior and informed consent," which was a request made by a delegate of a Canadian First Nation.^v
- On February 22, 2017, the Prime Minister announced the creation of a working group to review laws, policies and operational practices to help ensure the federal Crown is meeting its constitutional obligations with respect to Aboriginal and treaty rights and adhering to international human rights standards, including UNDRIP.^{vi}
- On May 10, 2016, Minister Bennett formalized Canada's position on UNDRIP. She confirmed Canada is a full supporter of UNDRIP, removing previous qualifications when Canada endorsed UNDRIP in 2010.^{vii}
- In B.C., some First Nations have claimed that the declaration wording on "free, prior and informed consent" (FPIC) provides them a veto over land use decisions.^{viii}
- In October 2016, the First Nations Summit passed a resolution calling on B.C. to uphold Canada's "unqualified" endorsement of UNDRIP and commit to the implementation of TRC's 94 Calls to Action. They called on B.C. to follow Ontario's example on reconciliation through their "Statement of Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples" in May 2016.^{ix}

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

s.16

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s.16

- The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) will work with other agencies through the provision of guidance and advice on what implementing UNDRIP may mean from a strategic perspective, to support them in meeting their mandate commitments.^{xiii}

ⁱ From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
ⁱⁱ From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
ⁱⁱⁱ From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{iv} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^v From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{vi} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{vii} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{viii} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{ix} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^x From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{xi} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{xii} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.
^{xiii} From IRR estimates note. Provided to IGRS on October 11, 2017.

ISSUE: Federal-Provincial Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- B.C. is committed to engaging the federal government and other provinces and territories to advance B.C.'s interests across a range of files.
- To be successful in building, diversifying and making the Canadian economy more inclusive, governments need to work together.
- B.C. is an enthusiastic, constructive participant in cooperative efforts, with the federal government and others, to create opportunities for Canadians.
- B.C. is moving forward on a federal engagement strategy that focuses on advancing key B.C. priorities.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- B.C.'s current priorities with the federal government include:
s.13,s.16

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

s.13,s.16

ISSUE: Federal-Provincial Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. is committed to engaging the federal government and other provinces and territories to advance B.C.'s interests across a range of files.**
- **To be successful in building, diversifying and making the Canadian economy more inclusive, governments need to work together.**
- **B.C. is an enthusiastic, constructive participant in cooperative efforts, with the federal government and others, to create opportunities for British Columbians.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- **B.C.'s immediate priorities with the federal government include:**
s.13,s.16

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER

s.13,s.16

ISSUE: Council of the Federation (COF)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Council of the Federation (also styled as “Canada’s Premiers”) allows Premiers to work collaboratively to advance priorities of all Canadians by fostering a constructive relationship among provinces and territories.**
- **The 2018 Council of the Federation summer meeting will take place in St. Andrews, New Brunswick.**
- **Recent Council of the Federation initiatives include:**
 - **Convening periodic discussions to take stock of the state of NAFTA negotiations;**
 - **Identifying common considerations and best practices to legalize and regulate cannabis (Ministers responsible for cannabis conveyed their report to Premiers on November 15, 2017);**
 - **Working collaboratively to further reduce drug prices and build on the success of intergovernmental collaboration through the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance;**
 - **Engaging the federal government on the timelines and costs associated with establishing a National Pharmacare Plan with a full federal partner (work to be led by Health Ministers, with a report back to Premiers due by January 15, 2018);**
 - **Exploring further collaboration in procurement of basic and specialized medical equipment (work to be led by Health Ministers, with a report back to Premiers due by May 31, 2018);**
 - **Advancing work on the Socio-Economic Action Plan for Aboriginal Women (work to be led by Ministers responsible for Indigenous relations, with a report back to Premiers due by May 31, 2018);**
 - **Continued implementation of the Canadian Energy Strategy (led by Energy Ministers).**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Established in 2003, the Council of the Federation (COF) is an intergovernmental institution composed of the thirteen Premiers of Canada's provinces and territories.
- The Chair of COF is assumed by a Premier on a rotational basis, for a term of one year
 - The current Chair is Premier Notley of Alberta, who assumed the role at the July 2017 summer meeting in Edmonton.
 - The Vice-Chair is Premier Gallant of New Brunswick, who will become Chair at the 2018 summer meeting.
 - B.C.'s last turn as Chair was in 2011-12.
- COF meets at least once each year. The main summer meeting is supplemented, as necessary, by a shorter winter meeting. Separate from the summer meeting, but directly before it, Premiers also meet collectively with leaders of the National Indigenous Organizations (NIOs).
- COF is supported by a Secretariat funded by all provinces and territories. The Secretariat is an incorporated entity whose board of directors is a Steering Committee consisting of Deputy Ministers of Intergovernmental Relations from all provinces and territories. The Steering Committee meets frequently through the year, usually by teleconference, to take stock of ongoing work mandated by Premiers, and to draft agendas and outcomes for upcoming COF meetings.
- On February 15, 2017, the COF Secretariat board of directors confirmed member fees for 2017-18 and 2018-19 (in total over the two-year period) at eight cents (\$0.08) per Canadian based on the 2011 population census, with fees to be paid in either fiscal year. At four cents per year, the annual funding amount is \$1.35 million.
- B.C.'s contribution as per the 2011 census is \$184,802 for 2017-18 (includes 5% GST).

ISSUE: Western Premiers' Conference

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **BC hosted the 2016 Western Premiers' Conference on May 5-6 in Vancouver.**
- **The date and location of the next Western Premiers' Conference is not yet determined.**

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.
- 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.
- Yukon, as Chair, was scheduled to hold the 2017 Western Premiers' Conference via a 90-minute teleconference; however, as a result of logistical challenges the call did not proceed.

ISSUE: Western Premiers' Conference (WPC)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **British Columbia will continue to engage with western provinces and territories through the Western Premiers' Conference.**
- **The Western Premiers' Conference is an important forum to advance the interests of Western Canada through enhanced cooperation and constructive dialogue.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The next Western Premiers' Conference will take place in Yellowknife, likely in late May or early June. Northwest Territories Premier Bob McLeod will chair the forum.
- The WPC is comprised of the Premiers of B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- The WPC exists to 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 groundwork for discussions at the summer Council of the Federation meeting.
- 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.
- Yukon, as the previous WPC Chair, was scheduled to hold the 2017 WPC via a 90-minute teleconference on May 25, 2017; however, as a result of logistical challenges the call did not proceed.
- BC hosted the 2016 WPC on May 5-6, 2016 in Vancouver.

ISSUE: Western Premiers' Conference (WPC)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **British Columbia will continue to engage with western provinces and territories through the Western Premiers' Conference.**
- **The Western Premiers' Conference is an important forum to advance the interests of Western Canada through enhanced cooperation and constructive dialogue.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The next Western Premiers' Conference is tentatively scheduled for May 15-17, 2018 in Yellowknife. The Northwest Territories will chair the forum. This information has not yet been publicly announced, and it is the prerogative of the Chair to do so.
- The WPC is comprised of the Premiers from B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the three territories.
- The WPC exists to 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 groundwork for discussions at the summer Council of the Federation meeting.
- 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.
- Yukon, as the previous WPC Chair, was scheduled to hold the 2017 WPC via a 90-minute teleconference on May 25, 2017; however, as a result of logistical challenges the call did not proceed.
- BC hosted the 2016 WPC on May 5-6, 2016 in Vancouver.

ISSUE: Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Over 40 per cent of B.C.'s total trade is with the rest of Canada.**
- **The Canadian Free Trade Agreement is an interprovincial trade agreement between all provinces, territories and the federal government.**
- **The agreement took effect July 1, 2017 and replaced the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT).**
- **The agreement is designed to help ensure that Canadian businesses, workers and investors have the same or similar rights as foreigners in Canada under international trade agreements.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- At the August 2014 meeting of the Council of the Federation, Premiers agreed to undertake a comprehensive renewal of the national Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT).
- Negotiations were completed in January 2017. The resulting Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) came into effect on July 1, 2017, and replaced the AIT.
- The CFTA uses a "negative list approach", meaning that it covers all sectors of the economy and trade in all goods and services as well as all investments, apart from for a list of explicit, clearly identified exceptions.
- The CFTA also establishes a regulatory reconciliation process designed to help eliminate unnecessary differences among jurisdictions in regulations that create barriers to trade.
- The CFTA commits Parties to more open procurement practices, particularly for the services of regulated professions (e.g., engineers and architects) and for procurements by Crown energy entities.
- B.C. employed a reciprocity approach to government procurement whereby it may restrict a supplier's access to its procurement if that supplier's government has restricted a B.C. supplier's access to that same type of procurement.
- B.C. also negotiated exceptions to the rules for its areas of sensitivity including agricultural supply management (i.e. marketing boards for eggs, milk and poultry) and certain liquor, energy and forestry practices (e.g., log export restrictions).
- The CFTA does not currently include provisions with respect to the trade in alcoholic beverages. Rather, it establishes a working group to discuss and make recommendations on measures in this area.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- The CFTA also does not cover financial services or non-medicinal cannabis. However, Parties have agreed to hold discussions to assess incorporating these areas.

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- **The CFTA is designed to help ensure that Canadian businesses, workers and investors have the same or similar rights as foreigners in Canada under international trade agreements.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- At the August 2014 meeting of the Council of the Federation, Premiers agreed to undertake a comprehensive renewal of the national Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT).
- An impetus for this was the growing number of international trade agreements that they believed provided more rights to foreign interests than what was available to Canadians.
- Negotiations for the CFTA were completed in January 2017. The Agreement came into effect on July 1, 2017 (Canada's 150th birthday), and replaced the AIT.
- The CFTA uses a "negative list approach", meaning that it covers all sectors of the economy and trade in all goods and services as well as all investments, with any exceptions being clearly identified.
- The CFTA also establishes a regulatory reconciliation process designed to help eliminate unnecessary differences among jurisdictions in regulations that create barriers to trade.
- The CFTA commits Parties to more open procurement practices, particularly for the services of regulated professions (e.g., engineers and architects) and for procurements by Crown energy entities.
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- Implementation of the CFTA may require minor changes to regulations made under the Commercial Arbitration Act and the Enforcement of Canadian Judgements and Decrees Act.
- Implementation will also require B.C. to adopt a process for publically posting descriptions of its proposed regulations that could significantly affect trade and to modify its current dispute resolution mechanism for government procurement so that it is available to suppliers across Canada.

ISSUE: Cannabis Legalization

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The federal government has made a decision to legalize cannabis by July 2018.
- In B.C., the government launched a public engagement procession September 25 asking for input from British Columbians on topics such as minimum age, personal possession limits, public consumption, drug-impaired driving, personal cultivation and distribution and retail models. Responses received through the online feedback form and written submissions from local governments, Indigenous governments and organizations and other key stakeholders will assist in informing the priority policy issues that will advance to government for decision.
- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Hon. Farnworth, and the Attorney General, have written to federal ministers pressing their new
- Premier also talked about it at FMM on October 3.

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- **Cannabis legalization is a complex issue that requires a focused approach by provinces and territories.**
- **To achieve better outcomes for Canadians as the provinces and territories plan for cannabis legalization, Premiers established a Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Cannabis Legalization in July 2017.**
- **This Working Group will report back to Premiers and identify common considerations and best practices to cannabis legalization and regulation, guided by the objectives of reducing harm, protecting public safety, and reducing illicit activity.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Premiers discussed cannabis legalization at the July 2017 Council of the Federation meeting, and again at the October 3, 2017 First Ministers' Meeting (with the Prime Minister).
- At the July 2017 Council of the Federation meeting (attended by all Premiers except B.C.):
 - Premiers noted that the administration and regulation, public education and law enforcement efforts necessary to support legalization will entail significant costs for provincial and territorial governments and that the federal government would need to invest the appropriate resources to support cannabis legalization.
 - Premiers noted challenges associated with the federal government's proposed implementation date of July 1, 2018 and stated that federal engagement and information sharing would be required in order to manage this transition properly.
 - Premiers expressed the concern that the federal timeline may be unrealistic, given the issues listed above, and stated that if these issues are not properly addressed by the federal government provinces and territories may require an extension of the implementation date.
- Premiers will receive a report from a Working Group of provincial/territorial Ministers responsible for cannabis legalization by November 1, 2017.
- The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, who is responsible for leading the safe implementation of cannabis legalization in B.C., has requested an extension to the July 2018 timeline. However, he has indicated B.C. will work towards that timeline as the federal government has given no indication that the date will be changed.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- B.C. launched its public and stakeholder engagement on September 25, 2017, asking for input from British Columbians on topics such as minimum age, personal possession limits, public consumption, drug-impaired driving, personal cultivation and distribution and retail models. Responses received through the online feedback form and written submissions from local governments, Indigenous governments and organizations and other key stakeholders will assist in informing the priority policy issues that will advance to government for decision.

ISSUE: Cannabis Legalization

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The federal government has made a decision to legalize non-medical cannabis by July 2018 and reform Canada's impaired driving regime. These federal changes have important repercussions for our communities.
- We are actively engaged with the Government of Canada. The health and safety of British Columbians are at the forefront of those discussions.
- B.C.'s focus remains on four things:
 1. Protecting children and youth;
 2. Prioritizing the health and wellness of British Columbians;
 3. Keeping the criminal element out of cannabis to reduce crime and to ensure consumers get a product they can trust; and
 4. Educating drivers and supporting the enforcement of drug-impaired driving laws that keep roads safe.
- Canada will only be the second nation to legalize non-medical cannabis. We must proceed with caution and recognize that until laws are passed for legal non-medical cannabis, the laws as they are today still apply.
- We will continue to engage with a variety of stakeholders, including local and Indigenous governments and organizations, law enforcement, health professionals and organizations, and others to ensure all interested parties have a voice.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Intentions of the federal government:

- The federal government has stated that the current approach to cannabis does not work and has allowed criminals and organized crime to profit, while failing to keep cannabis out of the hands of Canadian youth.
- On April 13, 2017, the Government of Canada introduced two Bills: the Cannabis Act (Bill C-45) to legalize, regulate, and restrict access to cannabis in Canada; and the Act to amend the Criminal Code (Bill C-46) to address, among other things, cannabis-impaired driving. Both bills have passed third reading in the House of Commons and are now before the Senate.

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- The Government of Canada intends to bring the proposed Cannabis Act into force no later than July 2018, and intends to move as quickly as possible to bring into force the amendments in relation to impaired driving.
- On November 21, federal Health Minister Ginette Petitpas Taylor published a consultation paper on a proposed federal approach to the regulation of cannabis. Among other things, the paper proposes that regulations would permit outdoor and indoor cultivation of cannabis under four classes of license: standard cultivation, micro-cultivation, nursery and industrial hemp. Stakeholders have until January 20 to respond to the paper.
- Under the proposed Cannabis Act, provinces and territories will authorize and oversee the distribution and sale of non-medical cannabis within their respective jurisdictions, subject to minimum federal conditions. As an interim measure for those jurisdictions that have not implemented a regulated distribution and retail framework, individuals will be able to purchase cannabis online from a federally licensed producer with secure home delivery through the mail or by courier.
- Provinces and territories will also have the authority to increase the minimum legal age established by the Government of Canada for purchase and possession of non-medical cannabis. In addition, provinces and territories will have authority to regulate public consumption, establish additional restrictions on personal cultivation, and address cannabis impaired driving in provincial road safety laws.
- There will be significant costs associated with establishing a distribution and retail regime, and with related compliance and enforcement activities that will require an up-front investment by the province.
- However, there are also significant revenue generation opportunities. Both costs and revenues will depend on the distribution and retail regime chosen, and on decisions taken with respect to revenue generation and taxation. Work to obtain cost and revenue estimates is underway.
- The federal government has proposed a federally-administered excise tax on cannabis of 10%, with a minimum tax of \$1/gram, and a 50/50 sharing of revenue between federal and provincial/territorial governments. (Other federal and provincial-territorial taxes, such as GST, would also apply). ^{s.16}

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B.C. perspective:

- Over the past two years, B.C. has undertaken the following key actions:
 - Working collaboratively across eight ministries (Public Safety and Solicitor General, Health, Attorney General, Agriculture, Finance, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, and Children and Family Development),
 - Establishing a Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat in spring 2017,
 - Conducting research and analysis since spring 2016, and
 - Participating in a number of issue-specific FPT working groups (such as Communications, Ticketable Offences, Drug Impaired Driving, Taxation, Labour, Seed-to-Sale Tracking and Data Monitoring).

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- B.C. led a delegation to Washington (in 2016) and Colorado (in July 2017) to meet with local officials and stakeholder groups and learn from their experiences with the legalization of non-medical cannabis.
- The B.C. Government launched a public engagement process on September 25 asking for input from British Columbians on topics such as minimum age, personal possession limits, public consumption, drug-impaired driving, personal cultivation and distribution and retail models.
- Minister Farnworth, who is responsible for leading the safe implementation of cannabis legalization in B.C., has requested an extension to the July 2018 timeline. However, he has indicated B.C. will work towards that timeline as the federal government has given no indication that the date will be changed.
- In October 2017, Minister Farnworth wrote to the federal Health Minister seeking assurance that small-scale B.C. producers have an opportunity to be part of a legal production regime.
- Additionally in October 2017, Ministers Farnworth and Eby wrote a joint letter to federal Ministers Wilson-Raybould, Goodale and Taylor raising constitutional and jurisdictional concerns. The letter stresses that B.C. has the authority to develop its own regulatory system for cannabis production.

Provincial-Territorial Collaborative Work

- At the July 2017 Council of the Federation meeting (attended by all Premiers except B.C.):
 - Premiers noted that the administration and regulation, public education and law enforcement efforts necessary to support legalization will entail significant costs for provincial and territorial governments and that the federal government would need to invest the appropriate resources to support cannabis legalization.
 - Premiers noted challenges associated with the federal government's proposed implementation date of July 1, 2018 and stated that federal engagement and information sharing would be required in order to manage this transition properly.
 - Premiers expressed the concern that the federal timeline may be unrealistic, given the issues listed above, and stated that if these issues are not properly addressed by the federal government provinces and territories may require an extension of the implementation date.
- To achieve better outcomes for Canadians as the provinces and territories plan for cannabis legalization, Premiers established a Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Cannabis Legalization in July 2017.
- Premiers also discussed cannabis legalization at the October 3, 2017 First Ministers' Meeting with the Prime Minister.

ISSUE: Wildfires – Federal Assistance

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The 2017 wildfire season was the worst and most active in B.C. history. A State of Emergency stayed in place from July 7 to September 16 and costs reached record levels.
- Since April, 1262 fires occurred in B.C., burning 1.2 million hectares of land and costing over \$550 million in firefighting costs. For comparison, the 2016 season saw just over 99,450 hectares burned, costing \$110.5 million.
- During this wildfire season, approximately 65,000 people were evacuated from their homes. Key economic sectors, including forestry, agriculture and tourism were hit hard, putting immense strain on businesses and communities.
- The B.C. government has provided support for households and businesses affected by wildfires this season. These supports have included:
 - Providing \$100 million to the Canadian Red Cross to assist people who have been evacuated from their homes.
 - Distributing emergency assistance grants of \$1,500 each to eligible small businesses and not-for-profit organizations in evacuated areas and areas impacted by highway closures.
 - Working closely with the forestry sector to issue salvage licences and expedite cutting permits to help people in the industry get back to work as quickly as possible.
 - Committing, together with the federal government, \$20 million to agricultural producers. The AgriRecovery initiative will help B.C. ranchers recover from their losses and continue to contribute to B.C.'s economy. This funding is in addition to the \$6 million that the province is spending to replace damaged fencing.
 - Providing \$200,000 each to the Cariboo-Chilcotin Tourism Association, the Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association and the Kootenay Rockies Tourism Association to help support tourism businesses in those regions.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- We continue to appreciate the federal government's contributions and responsiveness to this emergency, including the creation of the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee, and its members' visits to affected communities and meeting with the BC Cabinet Task Force.
- B.C. has asked the federal government for further support including an advance of \$100 million of Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement Funding, and for acceleration disaster assistance payments more generally.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The provincial state of emergency, the longest in B.C.'s history, was declared on July 7 and was extended four times.

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ISSUE: Wildfires – Federal Assistance

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The 2017 wildfire season was the worst and most active in B.C. history. A State of Emergency stayed in place from July 7 to September 16 and costs reached record levels.
- Since April, 262 fires have occurred in B.C., burning 1.2 million hectares of land and costing over \$550 million in firefighting costs. For comparison, the 2016 season at this time saw just over 99,450 hectares burned, costing \$110.5 million.
- We continue to appreciate the federal government's contributions and responsiveness to this emergency, including the creation of the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee, and members' recent trip to Vancouver.
- B.C. transmitted further requests to the federal government in September and asked the Prime Minister to consider the requests with urgency.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

s.16

ISSUE: Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. 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 Federal-Provincial-Territorial partners to ensure that our priorities continue to be reflected in the ongoing work of the Pan-Canadian Framework.**
- **B.C. 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 / STATUS:

- The Pan-Canadian Framework (PCF) on Clean Growth and Climate Change was publicly released at the First Ministers Meeting on December 9, 2016 in Ottawa.
- The federal government engaged with provinces and territories in the development of the PCF to reach Canada's 2030 goal of a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels.
- The PCF contains details of Canada-wide policies such as the Federal Carbon Pricing Backstop and provides flexibility for provinces and territories in terms of the additional actions they take given the diversity of economic and other circumstances in each jurisdiction.
- National Indigenous Organizations were engaged throughout the process, and a coordinated process of stakeholder engagement sessions and online public consultations took place across the country to gather input and ideas from industry and individuals.
- Saskatchewan and Manitoba have not signed onto the PCF.
- The PCF commits federal, provincial and territorial governments to working together through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) to:
 - Examine options for the reporting of emissions and inventories to ensure consistency across provinces and territories,
 - Support Canada's reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
 - Develop a pan-Canadian offset protocol framework, and

- Further explore verified carbon credits that can be traded domestically and internationally.
- First Ministers tasked their officials to develop an agenda for federal, provincial and territorial ministers to implement the PCF and to report back on progress. Intergovernmental Deputy Ministers have agreed on a governance structure to implement the PCF.

Four Pillars of the PCF

1. Carbon Pricing

- The PCF committed to Pan-Canadian carbon pricing: a benchmark national carbon price of \$10 per tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) emissions for 2018, rising by \$10 each year to \$50 per tonne of CO₂e in 2022. The carbon price has to apply to substantially the same sources as B.C.'s carbon tax.
- It is understood that B.C.'s carbon tax will continue to meet the federal benchmark. B.C.'s carbon tax is currently \$30 per tonne of CO₂e. Effective April 1, 2018, the carbon tax will be increased by \$5 per tonne of CO₂e annually until rates are equal to \$50 per tonne of CO₂e on April 1, 2021.

2. Specific Mitigation Opportunities

- Complementary climate actions can reduce emissions by addressing market barriers where pricing alone is insufficient or not timely enough to reduce emissions in the pre-2030 timeframe.
- Actions are underway in B.C. in areas including increasing renewable energy supply, transportation efficiency and cleaner fuels, targeting fugitive emissions and government carbon neutrality.

3. Adaptation and Climate Resilience

- The focus is on ensuring that infrastructure and communities are adequately prepared for climate risks like floods, wildfires, droughts, and extreme weather events, including in particularly vulnerable regions including Indigenous, northern, coastal, and remote communities.
- Actions are underway in B.C. in areas including developing new building codes, updating flood maps and strategies and identifying projects to support adaptation in Indigenous communities.

4. Actions to accelerate innovation, support clean technology, and create jobs

- Positioning Canada as a global leader on clean technology innovation will help ensure that Canada remains internationally competitive and will lead to the creation of new jobs across the country. Investing in clean technology, innovation, and jobs will bring new and in-demand Canadian technologies to expanding global markets.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- B.C. is leading by example, for instance by investigating policy options for increasing the use of low carbon building materials in new LEED certified public sector facilities. Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology leads a broad range of measures to accelerate innovation, support clean technology, and create jobs.

ISSUE: Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

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*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

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- It is understood that B.C.'s carbon tax does, and with the proposed increases will continue to meet the Federal Benchmark.

2. Specific Mitigation Opportunities

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- Actions are underway in B.C. in areas including increasing renewable energy supply, transportation efficiency and cleaner fuels, targeting fugitive emissions and government carbon neutrality.

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- B.C. is leading by example, for instance by investigating policy options for increasing the use of low carbon building materials in new LEED certified public sector facilities. Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology leads a broad range of measures to accelerate innovation, support clean technology, and create jobs.

ISSUE: Environmental Assessment

- The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) reviews natural resource development projects that trigger the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Not all natural resource development projects trigger the *Environmental Assessment Act*.
- Currently there are 30 projects at various stages of the environmental assessment (EA) process – totalling an estimated \$86 billion of capital investment.
- We are committed to revitalizing the EA process.
 - We will ensure the legal rights of First Nations are respected, and the public’s expectation of a strong, transparent process is met.
 - Industry didn’t always have a clear sense of what a path to success looks like, and we’ll work to provide that certainty.
- Questions related to specific projects undergoing an environmental assessment can be directed to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Environmental Assessment Office.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

EA Revitalization

- The Premier has directed the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to revitalize the Environmental Assessment (EA) process “to ensure the legal right of First Nations are respected, and the public’s expectation of a strong transparent process is met.”
- This means:
 - Pursuing Reconciliation: integrating Indigenous communities’ values, knowledge, culture and cultural practices and wellbeing into the EA process and seeking consensus with potentially affected First Nations on matters that may impact their rights;
 - Enhancing Public Confidence: ensuring impacted First Nations, local communities and governments and the broader public are provided with opportunities to meaningfully engage in, and influence, environmental assessments through all stages of the process; and
 - Protecting the Environment while Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth by providing certainty of process and clarity of regulatory considerations: an EA process that is robust, transparent, timely, predictable and provides opportunity for early indications of the likelihood of success.
- To achieve this objective, the Ministry, led by the EAO proposes to:
 - work collaboratively with Indigenous groups to identify priority actions to pursue and implement;

- ensure this work contributes to achieving government's commitment to fully implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People; and,
- engage proponents, the public, and other stakeholders regarding EA Revitalization.
- The Ministry is currently working to identify the specific process that will be taken to achieve this objective.
- The Minister will make a formal announcement on the process for EA revitalization at a later date.

Federal Review

- In 2016, the Prime Minister mandated independent reviews of the federal environmental assessment (EA) process as well as the National Energy Board, the Fisheries Act and the Navigation Protection Act.
- On June 29, 2017 the Federal Government published a discussion paper setting out its considerations for legislative and policy responses in response to these reviews.
- B.C. is generally pleased with the direction outlined in the federal discussion paper, the review process in general, and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency's open engagement with the provinces.
- The Province's priorities with respect to the review are:
 - Ensuring alignment with the federal government's approach to enhancing the engagement of Indigenous groups in environmental assessment;
 - Seeking opportunities to increase the technical rigour and transparency of the EA process; and
 - Ensuring the flexibility, mechanisms and tools are in place in the federal legislation to enable the principle of one project; one assessment to be achieved.
- The Province continues to engage with Canada both bilaterally and with other provinces and territories to ensure the greatest degree of alignment between the federal and B.C. processes, protect provincial interests and provide practical advice to Canada based on our experience.
- The EAO will be looking closely at the results of the federal review process as the revitalization of the EA process in B.C. also gets underway.
- The federal government originally aimed to introduce new legislation as a result of its review by the end of December 2017. Meeting this deadline is unlikely and a new timeline has not yet been communicated.

ISSUE: Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- We made a commitment to use every tool available to defend B.C.'s interests – and we are approaching the situation thoughtfully and deliberately.
- Thomas Berger QC, acting for the Attorney General, filed an application for British Columbia to intervene in the Federal Court of Appeal regarding the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project.
- We are pleased that the court granted B.C. intervener status. It is absolutely appropriate and necessary that we have the opportunity to defend British Columbia's interests in this very important case.
- The Government of Alberta has been granted intervener status, and we want to ensure B.C.'s interests are presented to the court as well.
- B.C.'s written Memorandum of Fact and Law was filed on September 1st and outlines the aspects of litigation we wish to intervene on. This document is available through the courts.
- We will continue to defend B.C.'s coast and the economic and environmental interests that are so important to British Columbians.

If asked about permitting:

- Statutory decision makers continue to consider permit applications, in accordance with the legislative authority granted to them.
- When it comes to granting permits, we will hold the company's plans to the existing high standards of environmental protection and consultation with First Nations that British Columbians expect.

If asked about intervener application (timing, content etc.):

- The Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project significantly impacts British Columbia – with a disproportionate impact on B.C.'s marine coastal environment and Indigenous peoples.

- **British Columbia has been granted intervener status to ensure our provincial interests are heard in this matter.**
- **The argument in our Memorandum of Fact and Law reflects our status as interveners, and not full parties to the appeal, and adheres to the submission length set by the court.**
- **It outlines the failure of the federal process to properly consider the profound economic risks associated with a bitumen spill on our coast, and does so to ensure B.C. has a voice in these proceedings.**
- **British Columbians can have confidence that we will continue to defend B.C.'s coast and our economic and environmental interests.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Expansion Project was approved by the federal government with 157 conditions on November 29, 2016.
- A provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Trans Mountain Expansion Project was issued on January 11, 2017 with 37 legally-binding conditions.
- The Environmental Assessment Certificate requires Trans Mountain to develop various environmental management plans in consultation with the Province and Aboriginal groups.
- The governments of Canada and Alberta are firm in their position that since the project has received necessary federal approvals, it must be allowed to proceed.
- Over 20 municipalities (including the City of Vancouver) and 17 First Nations have expressed formal opposition to the project. Judicial reviews challenging the issuance of the certificate have been commenced by the City of Vancouver and the Squamish First Nation.
- In May 2017, Trans Mountain announced it reached a final investment decision.
- The project requires 1187 provincial permits, under various provincial acts, many of which require First Nation consultation.
- On August 10, 2017, the Province announced that Thomas Berger has been secured as external counsel to government in the legal action related to the pipeline. Mr. Berger will provide legal advice to government on the options for participation in legal challenges.
- On August 21, 2017, Thomas Berger filed an application for British Columbia to intervene in the Federal Court of Appeal regarding the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project.
- On August 29, the Federal Court of Appeal granted B.C. intervener status.
- There are 16 legal challenges to the NEB report and federal Cabinet approval that have been consolidated with a hearing that began on October 2, 2017.

ISSUE: Federal Health Transfer Payments

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **A strong health care system in British Columbia depends on long-term, predictable funding.**
- **Health care funding from the federal government is a critical component in sustaining B.C.'s world-class health care system.**
- **B.C. will continue to work closely with the Government of Canada to advance our shared priorities of home care and mental health through targeted bilateral funding announced in February 2017.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The bulk of federal funding for health care comes in the form of the Canada Health Transfer (CHT). In addition, recent federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) negotiations resulted in new targeted funding for mental health and addiction services and home and community care.

Canada Health Transfer (CHT):

- The CHT is the largest major transfer to provinces and territories, and is intended to provide long-term, predictable funding for health care. It is provided on an equal per capita basis.
- The CHT is a block transfer used to maintain the national criteria for publicly provided health care in Canada as set out in the *Canada Health Act*.
- In 2017/18, the CHT will total \$37.1 billion nationally, of which B.C.'s share is expected to be approximately \$4.9 billion.
- Nationwide, the CHT covers about 23 per cent of provincial/territorial health care costs.
- The share of health care costs covered by the CHT is higher in B.C. (about 23.5 per cent) because B.C. spends less per capita on health care than the average province.
- In 2011, the federal government announced that as of 2017 the CHT growth rate (or escalator) would be reduced from 6% per year to a rate based on GDP growth with a 3% floor.
- Despite efforts of provinces and territories to convince the federal government to reverse this decision, the reduction in the CHT escalator came into effect on April 1, 2017.
- The federal government was not willing to consider improvements to major transfers and offered only targeted funding instead.

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Targeted funding:

- In February 2017, B.C. signed a bilateral health agreement that provided targeted funding for 1) mental health and addiction services and 2) home care and community care.
- The estimated total value for B.C. is \$1.4 billion over 10 years, consisting of \$785.7 million for home care and \$654.7 million for mental health. These amounts were federal estimates of B.C.'s per capita shares of national funding.
- All other provinces and territories signed similar bilateral agreements, starting with New Brunswick on December 22, 2016, and ending with Manitoba on August 21, 2017.
- In conjunction with B.C.'s bilateral agreement in February, it was announced that B.C. would receive \$10 million in one-time funding to help address the opioid crisis.

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ISSUE: Salmon Aquaculture

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The B.C. government is committed to implementing the recommendations of the Cohen commission and working with the aquaculture industry to move to closed containment where possible.
- Minister Popham and I have had the opportunity to hear first-hand about the concerns of some First Nations communities with open pen fish farms in their territorial waters.
- This is an issue that won't be solved overnight, but one that will require having everyone at the table to find solutions. Any strategy for aquaculture must:
 - put a priority on the protection of wild salmon,
 - collaborate with First Nations and acknowledge their interests,
 - involve the federal government, and
 - recognize that the industry now generates nearly \$800 million in annual value, while supporting several thousand jobs in rural and coastal areas.
- The B.C. government is committed to working with First Nations, the industry and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to map out a future for B.C.'s aquaculture sector that is environmentally sustainable and that respects First Nations' rights while providing good jobs for British Columbians.
- In June 2015, the B.C. government announced a "pause" on approvals for new salmon aquaculture tenures, to allow for a review to ensure that aquaculture operations are socially and ecologically sustainable and can co-exist with B.C.'s wild fishery resource. As part of the pause, government established a Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Council on Finfish Aquaculture (MAACFA), drawn from the industry, First Nations, academia, non-governmental organizations and government staff.
 - The B.C. government looks forward to receiving the Council's report with recommendations this winter.

- (Note for background: MAACFA plans to complete its final report by January 31 – a one month extension of the original deadline.)

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Industry Statistics

- Farm-raised salmon is B.C.'s highest valued seafood product (93,000 tonnes, worth \$797 million in 2016) and the number one agricultural export. About seventy per cent of the harvest is exported, primarily to the U.S., followed by Japan, China and Hong Kong.
- As of July 2017, there were 126 existing salmon farm tenures, of which 65 were operating with salmon on site. There are 20 fish farm tenures (in the Broughton Archipelago) due to expire in June 2018 (including a site at Swanson Island that has been occupied by First Nations protesters – see below). Typically the client would apply for a tenure replacement several months in advance of the expiry.

First Nations and Crown Land Tenures

- B.C. First Nations have mixed perspectives on aquaculture.
 - Some First Nations are seeking to have salmon farms removed from their traditional territories. This issue has gained profile because of the B.C. government's commitment to marine based aquaculture and to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
 - Other First Nations have become active participants in the salmon aquaculture sector with 20 economic and social partnership agreements in place between companies and coastal First Nations accounting for approximately 80% of total production in the sector. First Nations who have chosen to actively participate in salmon aquaculture do so in a variety of ways including: employment in hatcheries, farms and processing plants; provision of contracted services and local environmental monitoring; and ownership of site tenures or full business ownership.
- Salmon farms may operate on sites claimed as traditional territory by more than one First Nation, with differing views on the industry.
- The Province is legally obligated to consult and (where required) accommodate First Nations on land and resource decisions that could impact their Aboriginal interests. To date, meeting the consultation obligations has not required the consent of First Nations. Accommodation measures taken over the years in response to concerns raised by First Nations have included:
 - certain areas placed under moratorium (i.e. no finfish allowed);
 - tenures issued with reduced terms for licences (e.g. Broughton tenures were replaced only for 5 years versus up to 30 years);
 - some licences were not replaced or approved in certain locations (capacity may have been relocated to another area of coast);

- modifying specific tenure boundaries to address localized issues or values;
- economic accommodation (usually provided by client); and
- “zoning” for aquaculture was covered in the marine plans developed jointly with Province/First Nations (MAPP).

Broughton Archipelago

- On October 10, 2017, Premier Horgan visited the community of ‘Namgis in Alert Bay to discuss issues of salmon aquaculture, including the recent occupation of two farms in the region.
 - The visit took place at the invitation of Chief Bob Chamberlin from the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis Nation.
 - The Premier was joined by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lana Popham, the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Hon. Scott Fraser, and the Minister of Transportation and MLA for the North Island, Hon. Claire Trevena.
- On October 13, Minister Popham wrote to aquaculture operator Marine Harvest Canada regarding its Port Elizabeth salmon farm. The letter noted the sensitivity of ongoing discussions with First Nations that are opposed to open-net salmon farming, and reiterated the government’s commitment to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP).

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Roles and Responsibilities

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is the lead for aquaculture management including:
 - management and control of aquaculture including licensing, and management of pollution measures including conservation and protection of wild fish and fish habitat;
 - aquatic animal health including disease prevention, detection and control; feed, medication, and biologics;
 - scientific research and monitoring, data collection on industry performance.
- DFO audits and publicly reports on the aquaculture industry, including conditions of licence such as: escapes; biomass on site; fish health (including sea lice); benthic (seabed) monitoring; unusual mortality events; veterinary drug and pest control products; marine mammal interaction; and net testing.

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- Key provincial responsibilities are as follows:
 - Ministry of Agriculture:
 - B.C.'s lead for seafood industry development;
 - B.C.'s lead for strategic aquaculture policy;
 - Aquaculture Industry Specialist on staff;
 - Animal Health Laboratory in Abbotsford.
 - Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Economic Development (FLNR):
 - issues tenures authorizing the use of land, foreshore and marine areas for finfish and shellfish aquaculture (*Land Act*);
 - issues freshwater licences (*Water Sustainability Act*);
 - Marine Use Planning.
 - Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy:
 - issues permits for sewage discharge (*Environmental Management Act*);
 - issues permits for pesticide use (*Integrated Pest Management Act*).

Cohen Commission

- The Cohen Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River was established in 2009.
- Its report includes 75 recommendations, eight of which directly or indirectly reference the Province of B.C.
- Although the Commission could not find a “smoking gun” for the decline in Fraser River sockeye, its report did recommend that DFO not issue any new licenses for salmon farms or allow increases in existing farm production in the Discovery Islands until at least 2020.
- In 2013, the B.C. government accepted the intent of each of the eight Cohen Commission recommendations that directly reference the Province and has since implemented them.
- In 2016, the Minister responsible for DFO issued a progress report on implementation of the Cohen Commission recommendations. The main outstanding issues relate to Canada’s Wild Salmon Policy; DFO has decided to undertake consultations on how to address these issues.
- B.C. is working with DFO on how to meaningfully move forward on outstanding Cohen Commission recommendations. ^{s.16}
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ISSUE: Softwood Lumber Dispute

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The forest sector is a key industry in B.C. that employs over 60,000 British Columbians in over 140 communities.**
- **The ongoing softwood lumber dispute is the Government of B.C.'s top trade priority. This is why Premier Horgan went to Ottawa and to Washington, D.C. a week after being sworn into office – to advocate for B.C.'s interests on the softwood file and to fight for B.C. jobs and a fair deal.**
- **Premier Horgan discussed softwood with the Prime Minister in Ottawa, with Minister Freeland at least twice over the phone, with Ambassador David MacNaughton in Washington, D.C., and with First Ministers in Ottawa.**
- **Special Envoy to the U.S. David Emerson was in Portland, Oregon on October 12 to advance B.C.'s interests on softwood. Mr. Emerson and Consul-General Brandon Lee met with Senator Jeff Merkley, officials from Governor Kate Brown's office, and senior congressional staffers.**
- **B.C. will support the Government of Canada in appealing the final determinations that the U.S. Department of Commerce announced on November 2, 2017.**
- **The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is the lead on this issue.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Current Status

- **On November 2, 2017 the U.S. Department of Commerce issued its final decision on duty rates. The final rates (20.83%) are lower than the preliminary rates (26.75%). The International Trade Commission's final determination is expected in December 2017. The Government of Canada is expected to appeal.**
- **B.C. is a member of the Federal-Provincial Task Force on Softwood Lumber. The Task Force shares information and analysis to understand potential impacts and assess how to address the needs of affected workers and communities. The Government of Canada**

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announced an \$867 million Softwood Lumber Action Plan to support companies, workers, and communities in Canada that depend on the forest industry. The plan includes loans and loan guarantees, market and product diversification, job loss mitigation programming and support, and worker and community support.

Background

- Since 1982, Canada and the U.S. have had four significant trade disputes pertaining to softwood lumber, known as Lumber I, II, III and IV. The Softwood Lumber Agreement (IV) expired on October 12, 2015.
- On December 15, 2016, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated investigations into allegations from the U.S. Lumber Coalition against Canada's softwood lumber industry. Three of the four largest lumber exporters targeted for investigation have operations in B.C., including Canfor, West Fraser, and Tolko. The fourth, Resolute, is headquartered in Québec.
- Commerce announced preliminary countervailing duties in April 2017 and anti-dumping duties in June 2017 – the combined duty averages approximately 27%.
- On August 29, 2017, Commerce announced that the final decisions in the countervailing and anti-dumping cases were to be delayed until no later than November 13, 2017. The purpose of the delay is to allow more time to reach a negotiated settlement on the softwood lumber trade dispute.
- B.C.'s Special Envoy to the U.S. David Emerson accompanied Premier John Horgan on his mission to Washington, D.C. in July 2017. Mr. Emerson and other provincial Special Envoys on Softwood Lumber from Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, and Alberta discussed the dispute and confirmed their unity during a panel discussion on August 24, 2017. His Excellency David MacNaughton, Ambassador of Canada to the United States (U.S.), hosted the discussion, which was streamed on Facebook Live.

Softwood Lumber in B.C.

- B.C. is Canada's largest producer of softwood lumber, in 2016 accounting for 48% of overall production.
- In 2016, B.C.'s softwood lumber production accounted for 53% of Canada's softwood lumber exports to the U.S.

ISSUE: Softwood Lumber Dispute

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The forest sector is a key industry in B.C. that employs over 60,000 British Columbians in over 140 communities.
- The ongoing softwood lumber dispute is the Government of B.C.'s top trade priority. This is why Premier Horgan went to Ottawa and to Washington, D.C. a week after being sworn into office – to advocate for B.C.'s interests on the softwood file and to fight for B.C. jobs and a fair deal.
- Premier Horgan discussed softwood with the Prime Minister in Ottawa, with Minister Freeland at least twice over the phone, with Ambassador David MacNaughton in Washington, D.C., and with First Ministers in Ottawa.
- Special Envoy to the U.S. David Emerson was in Portland, Oregon on October 12 to advance B.C.'s interests on softwood. Mr. Emerson and Consul-General Brandon Lee met with Senator Jeff Merkley, officials from Governor Kate Brown's office, and senior congressional staffers.
- B.C. strongly supports the Government of Canada's efforts to engage with the U.S. to negotiate a new agreement.
- However, B.C. will focus our efforts on litigation if the U.S. Lumber Coalition continues to make baseless and unfounded allegations.
- The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is the lead on this issue.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

Current Status

- The U.S. has walked away from the framework deal negotiated by Minister Freeland and Secretary Ross^{s.13}
- B.C. cannot support the new proposal from the U.S. and is prepared to take the dispute to litigation, if necessary. ^{s.13}

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- B.C. is a member of the Federal-Provincial Task Force on Softwood Lumber. The Task Force shares information and analysis to understand potential impacts and assess how to address the needs of affected workers and communities. The Government of Canada announced an \$867 million Softwood Lumber Action Plan to support companies, workers, and communities in Canada that depend on the forest industry. The plan includes loans and loan guarantees, market and product diversification, job loss mitigation programming and support, and worker and community support.^{s.13}

Background

- Since 1982, Canada and the U.S. have had four significant trade disputes pertaining to softwood lumber, known as Lumber I, II, III and IV. The Softwood Lumber Agreement (IV) expired on October 12, 2015.
- On December 15, 2016, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated investigations into allegations from the U.S. Lumber Coalition against Canada's softwood lumber industry. Three of the four largest lumber exporters targeted for investigation have operations in B.C., including Canfor, West Fraser, and Tolko. The fourth, Resolute, is headquartered in Québec.
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- B.C.'s Special Envoy to the U.S. David Emerson accompanied Premier John Horgan on his mission to Washington, D.C. in July 2017. Mr. Emerson and other provincial Special Envoys on Softwood Lumber from Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, and Alberta discussed the dispute and confirmed their unity during a panel discussion on August 24, 2017. His Excellency David MacNaughton, Ambassador of Canada to the United States (U.S.), hosted the discussion, which was streamed on Facebook Live.

Softwood Lumber in B.C.

- B.C. is Canada's largest producer of softwood lumber, accounting for over half of overall production.^{s.13}
- B.C.'s softwood lumber production accounts for 50% of Canada's softwood lumber exports to the U.S.

ISSUE: Premier John Horgan's Mission to Ottawa and to Washington, D.C.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Premier Horgan traveled to Ottawa and to Washington, D.C. from July 24 to 27 to stand up for and protect B.C.'s interests.
- In Ottawa, Premier Horgan and Prime Minister Trudeau talked about how Canada and B.C. can work together to resolve issues affecting B.C.
- In Washington, the Premier reminded officials that a stable, predictable lumber supply is critical for America's thriving home-building sector and that B.C. softwood lumber is vital to meet sector demand.

BACKGROUND:

- Premier John Horgan led a mission to Ottawa, Canada and to Washington, D.C. from July 24-27 of this year. The Premier was accompanied by Associate Deputy Minister, Forest Sector for the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development, Jason Fisher, and the B.C. Trade Envoy to the United States, David Emerson. The Premier was also accompanied by his Chief of Staff, Geoff Meggs and his Press Secretary, Sheena McConnell.
- In Ottawa, Premier Horgan had meetings with the Prime Minister and with the then-Federal Health Minister Jane Philpott.
- The Prime Minister commended the Premier for promoting and defending B.C.'s interests to senior Washington, D.C. executives.
- The Premier and Prime Minister discussed how to support people and communities affected by B.C.'s wildfires, fight for B.C. jobs in the softwood lumber dispute, and better support those affected by the opioid crisis. They also addressed childcare, affordable housing, and public infrastructure.
- In Washington, the Premier met with U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary, Wilbur Ross, who has been in negotiations on the Softwood Lumber Agreement with Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chrystia Freeland. Secretary Ross is a senior member of President Trump's cabinet.
- The Premier also met with United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, who is a part of the NAFTA negotiations, and two Members of Congress from Washington State (B.C.'s largest market for softwood in the U.S.); Congressman Dave Reichert (Republican) and Congresswoman Suzan Del Bene (Democrat).

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- While in Washington, the Premier also met with the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Home Builders, an association that advocates for Canadian softwood.
- In his Washington meetings, the Premier reiterated that B.C. lumber is a critical part of America's thriving home-building sector and a thriving home-building sector is a part of America's long-term economic growth. Premier Horgan also ensured that the U.S. legislators understood that Canadian Premiers are united in their desire to see a negotiated settlement that creates a stable, predictable lumber supply for Canada and the U.S.

Mission Costs:

The total cost for the trip was \$14,010.58.94.

The breakdown is as follows:

	Hotels and other Expenses	Flights	Total
J. Fisher	\$1,801.71	\$1,925.93	\$3,727.64
G. Meggs	\$1,469.19	\$1,605.93	\$3,075.12
S. McConnell	\$1,209.85	\$2,328.42	\$3,538.27
Premier	\$1,341.13	\$2,328.42	\$3,669.55
Totals	\$5,821.88	\$8,188.70	\$14,010.58

Jason Fisher's travel was paid out of the budget of FLNRO.

ISSUE: North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and other Trade Disputes with the United States (U.S.)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The federal government is responsible for the negotiation of Canada's international trade agreements, such as NAFTA. The B.C. government is working closely with our federal counterparts – advocating for B.C.'s interests – and is being regularly briefed and actively engaged.**
- **B.C. supports the Government of Canada's progressive trade agenda, particularly Canada's objectives to improve labour and environmental provisions.**
- **B.C. agrees with the Government of Canada – softwood lumber negotiations and NAFTA negotiations should be kept separate and negotiations should occur in parallel.**
- **B.C. is working closely with the Government of Canada on other trade disputes, including challenges against: the sale of B.C.-only wine on grocery store shelves; and Canadian uncoated groundwood paper.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

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- While the Government of Canada is the lead negotiator on NAFTA, senior officials from the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology are actively engaged, and working closely, with the federal negotiating team.
- On May 18, 2017, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer sent a letter to Congress that triggered a 90-day consultation period on NAFTA.

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- The first round of negotiations took place in Washington, D.C. on August 16-20. The second round was held in Mexico City on September 1-5. The third round was held in Ottawa on September 23-27. The fourth round was held in Arlington, VA on October 11-17. The fifth round was held in Mexico City on November 17-21. The sixth round is expected to take place in Montréal on January 23-28, 2018.
- The Government of Canada released its negotiating objectives on August 14, 2017. Canada is prioritizing a modernized and more progressive trade agreement.

B.C. Wine

- In December 2014, the Government of B.C. announced that B.C.-only wine could be sold directly on grocery store shelves as of April 1, 2015.
- On January 18, 2017, the U.S. Trade Representative launched a formal World Trade Organization dispute and request for consultations regarding the sale of B.C. wine on grocery store shelves. In February 2017, Australia, the European Union, New Zealand, and Argentina formally joined the dispute as third parties. Consultations took place on April 21, 2017.
- On September 28, 2017, the U.S. Trade Representative filed a second formal complaint and request for consultations at the World Trade Organization regarding the sale of B.C. wine on grocery store shelves. The second complaint is similar to the original complaint (which was launched by the previous administration), but has updated information on changes to policies and legislation.
- The Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology are reviewing the case and are working closely with the Government of Canada.

Uncoated Groundwood Paper

- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology is the B.C. lead on this issue.
- Uncoated groundwood paper is a type of paper used for directory stock, lesser quality drawing and writing paper, black and white publications, etc.

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- Washington State-based North Pacific Paper Company filed a petition with the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) and the Department of Commerce (Commerce) against Canadian producers of uncoated groundwood paper on August 9, 2017. On August 30, 2017, Commerce initiated anti-dumping and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of imports of uncoated groundwood paper from Canada.
- North Pacific Paper Company alleges that the estimated dumping margins range from 23.45-54.97%.
- The case names seven Canadian producers, including B.C.-based Catalyst Paper and Kruger Inc.
- Catalyst's three mills in B.C. employ 1,343 people. The uncoated groundwood paper petition covers approximately 285,000 tonnes of Catalyst's production.
- The ITC and Commerce are each conducting their own investigations. The ITC made its preliminary injury determination on September 25, 2017 that imports from Canada materially injure U.S. industry. Commerce postponed the preliminary CVD determination from November 2017 to January 2018. A preliminary anti-dumping determination is expected by January 2018. Final determinations from Commerce are expected 75 days after the date of the preliminary determination.

ISSUE: British Columbia-Alaska Relations

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- B.C. and Alaska are committed to working together to enhance the protection of transboundary rivers and watersheds.
- In October 2016, a statement of cooperation was signed by B.C. and Alaska to formalize, build upon and improve the cooperative relationship that exists between our two jurisdictionsⁱ.
- The statement of cooperation is overseen by a working group that includes the B.C. ministries of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the Departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game and Natural Resources from Alaskaⁱⁱ.
- B.C. is working with Alaska to ensure key elements of the statement of cooperation are being implemented.
- British Columbia shares Alaska's concerns about the longstanding pollution being discharged from the Tulsequah Mineⁱⁱⁱ.
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is the B.C. lead on the Tulsequah Chief Mine.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The tailings storage facility failure at the Mount Polley Mine in August 2014 heightened long-standing concerns in Alaska about British Columbia (B.C.) mine development along the border, and threatened to impact mining development in northwestern B.C.^{iv}
- On November 25, 2015, the former Premier of B.C. and Alaska Governor Bill Walker signed the *Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation Between the State of Alaska and the Province of British Columbia* (MOU)^v.
- The MOU is being implemented through a Statement of Cooperation (SOC) on the Protection of Transboundary Waters, which was signed October 6, 2016 by the former Minister of Energy and Mines, the former Minister of Environment, and Alaska Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott^{vi}.
- The SOC is overseen by a bilateral working group, which includes:
 - Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources;
 - Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and
 - the Alaska departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, and Natural Resources^{vii}.
- Members of Congress, tribes, environmental non-governmental organizations and other groups in the United States (U.S.) have written letters to the U.S. State Department and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau^{viii}.
- The letters requested that the U.S. and Canada invoke the provisions of the Boundary Water Treaty to determine whether a reference from the International Joint Commission would be a more suitable venue to address transboundary concerns relating to mining in B.C.^{s.16}
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Global Affairs Canada are working together to increase the level of confidence in B.C.'s mining practices and compliance oversight^{ix}.
- B.C. has made significant changes to how mining is done in the Province, including new policies, additional resources and funding to improve permitting processes and strengthen compliance and enforcement.

ⁱSource: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016MEM0024-001943>

ⁱⁱSource: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016MEM0024-001943>

ⁱⁱⁱSource: this language was provided by Kathy Eichenberger of MEMPR in an Oct. 5th telephone conversation. She also indicated that MEMPR may issue an order for remediation in early Nov → can update this speaking point if it happens.

^{iv}Source: Kathy Eichenberger, MEMPR (September 2017)

^vSource: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2015MEM0027-001963>

^{vi}Source: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016MEM0024-001943>

^{vii}Source: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016MEM0024-001943>

^{viii}Source: Kathy Eichenberger, MEMPR (September 2017)

^{ix}Source: Kathy Eichenberger, MEMPR (September 2017)

ISSUE: British Columbia-Alaska Relations on Mining Issues

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. and Alaska are committed to working together to enhance the protection of transboundary rivers and watersheds.**
- **In October 2016, a statement of cooperation was signed by B.C. and Alaska to formalize, build upon and improve the cooperative relationship that exists between our two jurisdictions.**
- **The statement of cooperation is overseen by a working group that includes the B.C. ministries of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the Departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game and Natural Resources from Alaska.**
- **B.C. is working with Alaska to ensure key elements of the statement of cooperation are being implemented.**
- **British Columbia shares Alaska's concerns about the longstanding pollution being discharged from the Tulsequah Mine.**
- **The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is the B.C. lead on the Tulsequah Chief Mine.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The tailings storage facility failure at the Mount Polley Mine in August 2014 heightened long-standing concerns in Alaska about British Columbia (B.C.) mine development along the border, and threatened to impact mining development in northwestern B.C.
- On November 25, 2015, the former Premier of B.C. and Alaska Governor Bill Walker signed the *Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation Between the State of Alaska and the Province of British Columbia* (MOU).
- The MOU is being implemented through a Statement of Cooperation (SOC) on the Protection of Transboundary Waters, which was signed October 6, 2016 by the former Minister of Energy and Mines, the former Minister of Environment, and Alaska Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott.
- The SOC is overseen by a bilateral working group, which includes:
 - Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources;
 - Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and
 - the Alaska departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, and Natural Resources.
- Members of Congress, tribes, environmental non-governmental organizations and other groups in the United States (U.S.) have written letters to the U.S. State Department and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.
- The letters requested that the U.S. and Canada invoke the provisions of the Boundary Water Treaty to determine whether a reference from the International Joint Commission would be a more suitable venue to address transboundary concerns relating to mining in B.C.
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Global Affairs Canada are working together to increase the level of confidence in B.C.'s mining practices and compliance oversight.
- B.C. has made significant changes to how mining is done in the Province, including new policies, additional resources and funding to improve permitting processes and strengthen compliance and enforcement.

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 U.S. Pacific Northwest.
- Parliamentary Secretary of Technology Rick Glumac is the Province's jurisdictional lead for the Pacific Northwest Economic Region.
- PNWER provides an opportunity for B.C. to continue to build strong relationships with U.S. state legislators and influential members of the U.S. private sector. This is especially important at a time when government is actively advocating for B.C.'s interests in softwood lumber and the North American Free Trade Agreement.
- 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.
- Victoria hosted PNWER's winter meeting (November 5-7, 2017). The Annual Summit was held in Oregon in July 2017. PNWER events attract private and public sector leaders from Pacific Northwest Economic Region jurisdictions and beyond.
- B.C.'s participation at the winter meeting in Victoria provided opportunities to continue to develop important relationships with neighbouring jurisdictions and to discuss policy areas and key subjects affecting our regional economy.
- PNWER and other multilateral and bilateral state-province relationships are important for the success of many B.C. government priorities. Given the current level of political uncertainty in the U.S., these relationships will be increasingly useful for managing regional issues.

BACKGROUND/STATUS:

- Parliamentary Secretary of Technology Rick Glumac was appointed as B.C.'s jurisdictional lead for PNWER in mid-October 2017.
- Penticton MLA Dan Ashton was the President of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) in 2016/17.

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- Member jurisdictions each pay USD\$50,000 (CDN\$62,643, as converted on October 6, 2017) in annual dues.
- PNWER brings together legislators, private sector leaders, and communities from around the region (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington, B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories) to discuss how to 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 United States (U.S.) by providing opportunities for B.C. to build relationships with state legislators, influential members of the U.S. private sector, and the Canadian and U.S. federal governments.
- Potential B.C. priorities that could be advanced through PNWER include the Cascadia Innovation Corridor, high-speed rail between Vancouver, B.C. and Portland, Oregon, invasive species, and wildfire management.
- PNWER also provides opportunities to share facts and engage effectively with Canadian and American public and private sector leaders on intergovernmental issues, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement, the softwood lumber dispute, and the Columbia River Treaty.

ISSUE: Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC) is an excellent forum for collaboration along the West Coast of Canada and the United States.**
- **Partnerships like the PCC are especially important in the current Canada-U.S. context. It allows B.C. to advance our priorities, such as climate action and softwood lumber, with influential Governors.**
- **I look forward to working closely with PCC partners as B.C. renews its climate action plan. Working with other jurisdictions will be a key pillar of our plan.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The PCC agreement was signed by the Premier of B.C. 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 the region. 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, B.C. has the opportunity to further develop intergovernmental relationships to promote B.C.'s policies to reduce GHG emissions, as well as develop the green economy. The forum also allows for B.C. to advance other critical priorities, such as softwood lumber.
- Premier Horgan spoke with Governor Jay Inslee (Washington) on September 21st. Minister Heyman is likely to meet with Governor Inslee, Governor Kate Brown (Oregon) and Governor Jerry Brown (California) while at the UN Climate Conference in Bonn, Germany November 6-17.
- PCC Leaders last met in June, 2016. B.C. was represented by the then-Minister of Environment. The Leaders signed an agreement reaffirming the region's commitment to the Paris Climate Accord and support for clean energy, transportation and ocean health. Major West Coast Cities, including Vancouver, joined the Provincial/State leaders.
- Pacific Coast Collaborative dues are \$100,000 USD/year. The last payment was on January 16th, 2017 at a conversion rate of 1.3163 which equals \$131,630 CDN. The payment is made to Ross Strategic, which provides secretariat and project management to the PCC.

ISSUE: Premier's Trip to Asia (January 2018)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **I am planning to visit Asia, including stops in China, South Korea and Japan early in the New Year. I cannot provide you any details at this time as the program is still in development.**
- **The visit is an opportunity for me to build on and strengthen B.C.'s relationship with government and business partners.**
- **I plan on promoting B.C.'s manufacturing, energy and high-tech sectors, in an effort to align new opportunities in these key Asian markets.**
- **Information on the trip's cost will be made public once the trip is complete and all costs are finalized.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology is the lead ministry in planning the Premier's trip to Asia.
- The Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat (IGRS) supports the trip by providing advice on government-to-government relations and protocol.
- The Premier's trip to Asia is tentatively planned for approximately 11 days.
- The Premier plans to visit China, South Korea and Japan, starting in Guangzhou (sister city with Vancouver), the capital city of Guangdong province (B.C. sister province).
- The focus of the trip will be relationship building with key governments and business partners – with a focus on manufacturing, energy and high-tech.
- Cost: TBD

ISSUE: Premier's Trip to Asia (January 2018)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- I am planning to visit Asia, including stops in China, South Korea and Japan early in the New Year. I cannot provide you any details at this time as the program is still in development..
- The visit is an opportunity for me to build on and strengthen B.C.'s relationship with government and business partners.
- I plan on promoting B.C.'s manufacturing, energy and high-tech sectors, in an effort to align new opportunities in these key Asian markets.
- Information on the trip's cost will be made public once the trip is complete and all costs are finalized.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology is the lead ministry in planning the Premier's trip to Asia.
- The Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat (IGRS) in the Office of the supports the trip by providing advice on government-to-government relations and protocol.
- The Premier's trip to Asia is tentatively planned for January 20-30, 2018.
- The Premier plans to visit China, South Korea and Japan.
- The focus of the trip will be relationship building with key governments and business partners – with a focus on manufacturing, energy and high-tech.
- Cost: TBD

ISSUE: Premier's Trip to Asia (January 2018)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- I look forward to my trip to Asia in January – visiting China, South Korea and Japan.
- Details on this [10-day - TBC] Premier-led trip, such as meetings and events, are still being worked out. I will release details on the program closer to our departure on January 20th.
- The visit is an opportunity for me to build on and strengthen B.C.'s relationship with government and business partners
- I plan on promoting B.C.'s manufacturing, energy and high-tech sectors, in an effort to align new opportunities in these key Asia markets.
- Information on the trip's cost will be made public once the trip is complete and all costs are finalized.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology is the lead ministry in planning the Premier's trip to Asia.
- IGRS supports the trip by providing advice on government-to-government relations and protocol.
- The Premier's trip to Asia is tentatively planned for January 20-30, 2018
- The Premier plans to visit China, South Korea and Japan.
- The focus of the trip will be relationship building with key governments and business partners – with a focus on manufacturing, energy and high-tech.
- Cost: TBD

ISSUE: B.C.-Guangdong (China) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. and Guangdong have had a sister province relationship since 1995.**
- **In the past 22 years, the two provinces have collaborated on a range of activities, including promoting increased trade and investment, conducting educational exchanges, jointly developing health responses to infectious diseases and collaborating on environmental sustainability issues.**
- **Guangdong is the wealthiest province in China with the biggest economy, and a large portion of B.C.'s Chinese community can trace their roots back to Guangdong.**
- **B.C.'s strong trade relationship with Guangdong brings economic growth and jobs to both of our provinces, benefits communities and families, fosters intercultural understanding, and strengthens our provinces' government-to-government relations.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1985, then Vancouver mayor Mike Harcourt established a sister city relationship between Guangzhou (located in Guangdong) and Vancouver. In 1995, Premier Harcourt established the B.C.-Guangdong sister relationship.
- In 2005, B.C. Premier Campbell and Guangdong Governor Huang Huahua renewed the twinning arrangement during the Governor's visit to B.C.
- Guangdong Province is situated in the southernmost part of China's mainland (immediately adjacent to Hong Kong and Macau in the Pearl River Delta), and is the most populous (108 million) and wealthy province in China.
- Guangdong has the highest GDP among all provinces of mainland China, at USD 1.2 trillion (approximately 11% of China's GDP). Canada's GDP is USD 1.5 trillion (10th in the world), and China's is USD 11.2 trillion (2nd).
- There are five pairs of sister-city relationships between B.C. and Guangdong: Vancouver-Guangzhou; Surrey-Zhuhai; Burnaby-Zhongshan; North Vancouver-Huizhou; and New Westminster-Yunfu.
- B.C. and Guangdong also have two sister ports: Vancouver International Airport-Guangzhou International Airport and Vancouver Port-Guangzhou Port.
- The Province of B.C. established a Trade and Investment Representative Office in Guangzhou in February 2009.

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- The Guangdong government set up an Economic and Trade Representative Office in Vancouver in September 2014.

ISSUE: B.C.-Guangdong (China) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- B.C. and Guangdong have had a sister province relationship since 1995.ⁱ
- In the past 22 years, the two provinces have collaborated on a range of activities, including promoting increased trade and investment, conducting educational exchanges, jointly developing health responses to infectious diseases and collaborating on environmental sustainability issues.ⁱⁱ
- B.C.'s strong trade relationship with Guangdong brings economic growth and jobs to both of our provinces, benefits communities and families, fosters intercultural understanding, and strengthens our provinces' government-to-government relations.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1985, then Vancouver mayor Mike Harcourt established a sister city relationship between Guangzhou (located in Guangdong) and Vancouver. In 1995, Premier Harcourt established the B.C.-Guangdong sister relationship.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Guangdong Province is situated in the southernmost part of China's mainland, and is the most populous (104 million)^{iv} and wealthy province (by GDP) in China (USD 1.2 trillion^v, approximately 11% of China's GDP). Canada's GDP is USD 1.5 trillion (10th in the world), and China's is USD 11.2 trillion (2nd).^{vi}
- There are five pairs of sister-city relationships between B.C. and Guangdong: Vancouver-Guangzhou; Surrey-Zhuhai; Burnaby-Zhongshan; North Vancouver-Huizhou; and New Westminster-Yunfu.^{vii}
- B.C. and Guangdong also have two sister ports: Vancouver International Airport-Guangzhou International Airport and Vancouver Port-Guangzhou Port.^{viii}
- The Province of B.C. established a Trade and Investment Representative Office in Guangzhou in February 2009.^{ix}
- The Guangdong government set up an Economic and Trade Representative Office in Vancouver in September 2014.^x

ⁱ From the B.C.-Guangdong sister province agreement.

ⁱⁱ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx

ⁱⁱⁱ From Raymond Zhu, JTT – verbal.

^{iv} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_population

^v https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_GDP

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^{vi} [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_\(nominal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal))

^{vii} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx

^{viii} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx

^{ix} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx

^x From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx

ISSUE: B.C.-Guangdong (China) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. and Guangdong have had a sister province relationship since 1995.ⁱ**
- **In the past 22 years, the two provinces have collaborated on a range of activities, including promoting increased trade and investment, conducting educational exchanges, jointly developing health responses to infectious diseases and collaborating on environmental sustainability issues.ⁱⁱ**
- **B.C.'s strong trade relationship with Guangdong brings economic growth and jobs to both of our provinces, benefits communities and families, fosters intercultural understanding, and strengthens our provinces' government-to-government relations.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1985, then Vancouver mayor Mike Harcourt established a sister city relationship between Guangzhou (located in Guangdong) and Vancouver. In September 1995, Premier Harcourt signed a Protocol that established the B.C.-Guangdong sister relationship.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Guangdong Province is situated in the southernmost part of China's mainland, and is the most populous (104 million)^{iv} and wealthy province (by GDP) in China (USD 1.2 trillion^v, approximately 11% of China's GDP). Canada's GDP is USD 1.5 trillion (10th in the world), and China's is USD 11.2 trillion (2nd).^{vi}
- There are five pairs of sister-city relationships between B.C. and Guangdong: Vancouver-Guangzhou; Surrey-Zhuhai; Burnaby-Zhongshan; North Vancouver-Huizhou; and New Westminster-Yunfu.^{vii}
- B.C. and Guangdong also have two sister ports: Vancouver International Airport-Guangzhou International Airport and Vancouver Port-Guangzhou Port.^{viii}
- The Province of B.C. established a Trade and Investment Representative Office in Guangzhou in February 2009.^{ix}
- The Guangdong government set up an Economic and Trade Representative Office in Vancouver in September 2014.^x

ⁱ "Protocol on the Establishment of the Sister Province Relationship," September 7, 1995.

ⁱⁱ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

ⁱⁱⁱ "Protocol on the Establishment of the Sister Province Relationship," September 7, 1995.

^{iv} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_population. October 20, 2017.

^v https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_GDP. October 20, 2017.

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^{vi} [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_\(nominal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal)). October 20, 2017.

^{vii} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^{viii} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^{ix} From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^x From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

ISSUE: B.C.-Guangdong (China) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- B.C. and Guangdong have had a sister province relationship since 1995.¹
- In the past 22 years, the two provinces have collaborated on a range of activities, including promoting increased trade and investment, conducting educational exchanges, jointly developing health responses to infectious diseases and collaborating on environmental sustainability issues.²
- B.C.'s strong trade relationship with Guangdong brings economic growth and jobs to both of our provinces, benefits communities and families, fosters intercultural understanding, and strengthens our provinces' government-to-government relations.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1985, then Vancouver mayor Mike Harcourt established a sister city relationship between Guangzhou (located in Guangdong) and Vancouver. In September 1995, Premier Harcourt signed a Protocol that established the B.C.-Guangdong sister relationship.³
- Guangdong Province is situated in the southernmost part of China's mainland, and is the most populous (104 million)⁴ and wealthy province (by GDP) in China (USD 1.2 trillion⁵, approximately 11% of China's GDP). Canada's GDP is USD 1.5 trillion (10th in the world), and China's is USD 11.2 trillion (2nd).⁶
- There are five pairs of sister-city relationships between B.C. and Guangdong: Vancouver-Guangzhou; Surrey-Zhuhai; Burnaby-Zhongshan; North Vancouver-Huizhou; and New Westminster-Yunfu.⁷
- B.C. and Guangdong also have two sister ports: Vancouver International Airport-Guangzhou International Airport and Vancouver Port-Guangzhou Port.⁸
- The Province of B.C. established a Trade and Investment Representative Office in Guangzhou in February 2009.⁹
- The Guangdong government set up an Economic and Trade Representative Office in Vancouver in September 2014.¹⁰

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- ¹ “Protocol on the Establishment of the Sister Province Relationship,” September 7, 1995.
- ² From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.
- ³ “Protocol on the Establishment of the Sister Province Relationship,” September 7, 1995.
- ⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_population. October 20, 2017.
- ⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Chinese_administrative_divisions_by_GDP. October 20, 2017.
- ⁶ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_\(nominal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal)). October 20, 2017.
- ⁷ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.
- ⁸ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.
- ⁹ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.
- ¹⁰ From JTT: Highlights BC Guangdong Trade and Investment.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

ISSUE: B.C.-Gyeonggi (South Korea) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In May 2008, B.C. and South Korea's Gyeonggi Province established a sister province relationship formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Gyeonggi is Korea's most populous province with 12 million people. It accounts for one-fifth of the country's GDP and exports and is home to world-leading companies such as Samsung, Hyundai-Kia and LG.
- Gyeonggi is the source of one-third of South Korea's companies, workforce, and manufacturing.
- Gyeonggi and B.C. are committed to continuing to promote economic and government-to-government cooperation.
- B.C. and Gyeonggi are exploring opportunities for signing a renewed Action Plan to mark the 10th anniversary of our sister province relationship.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1997, then B.C. Premier Dan Miller signed an MOU on Economic Cooperation with Gyeonggi Province in South Korea.
- In 2007, B.C.'s Asia Pacific Trade Council released its Korea Market Advisory Group report that recommended that the Province of British Columbia "expand and strengthen the Economic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with Gyeonggi Province to a full sister-province relationship, similar to the B.C.-Guangdong (China) sister-province relationship, and encourage the development of a strategic twinning network in South Korea with B.C. municipalities and transportation/gateway stakeholders."
- During Minister Colin Hansen's visit to South Korea in early July 2007, Gyeonggi Governor Moon-soo Kim raised the issue of upgrading the relationship between our two provinces, referencing the recommendations put forward in the Korea Market Advisory Group report.
- In May 2008, B.C. and South Korea's Gyeonggi Province established a sister province relationship formalized by an MOU during a visit by Governor Kim to B.C.
- On May 19, 2008, B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell and Gyeonggi Governor Moon-Soo Kim signed a sister province agreement to pursue economic and cultural partnerships and encourage twinning between their municipalities. Governor Kim also conferred honorary citizenship of Gyeonggi Province on Premier Campbell.

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- To advance the relationship under the sister province MOU, an Action Plan (2010-2012) was signed in February 2010 and identified areas for bilateral cooperation, including personnel exchanges.
- In August 2011, B.C. and Gyeonggi signed an additional MOU on exchange of government officials. Gyeonggi has sent four exchange officers to B.C. under the agreement. B.C. has not dispatched any officers to Gyeonggi.
- A second three-year Action Plan (2013-2016) was signed in Korea on November 2013 and focussed on cooperation in the areas of clean energy, digital media and wireless, agri-foods, marine leisure, and personal exchanges and market development cooperation.
- It is expected that a new action plan would be signed during a Premier's visit to Korea in 2018.
- Gyeonggi also has a sister-province relationship with Guangdong Province (China), as does British Columbia. Gyeonggi Province also has full sister relationships with Utah, Florida, and Virginia in the United States, and Queensland State in Australia.

ISSUE: B.C.-Gyeonggi (South Korea) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In May 2008, B.C. and South Korea's Gyeonggi Province established a sister province relationship formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).ⁱ
- Gyeonggi is Korea's most populous province with 12 million people. It accounts for one-fifth of the country's GDP and exports and is home to world-leading companies such as Samsung, Hyundai-Kia and LG.
- Gyeonggi is the source of one-third of South Korea's companies, workforce, and manufacturing.
- Gyeonggi and B.C. are committed to continuing to promote economic and government-to-government cooperation.
- B.C. and Gyeonggi are exploring opportunities for signing a renewed Action Plan to mark the 10th anniversary of our sister province relationship.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1997, then B.C. Premier Dan Miller signed an MOU on Economic Cooperation with Gyeonggi Province in South Korea.ⁱⁱ
- In 2007, B.C.'s Asia Pacific Trade Council released its Korea Market Advisory Group report that recommended that the Province of British Columbia "expand and strengthen the Economic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with Gyeonggi Province to a full sister-province relationship, similar to the B.C.-Guangdong (China) sister-province relationship, and encourage the development of a strategic twinning network in South Korea with B.C. municipalities and transportation/gateway stakeholders."ⁱⁱⁱ
- On May 19, 2008, then B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell and Gyeonggi Governor Moon-Soo Kim signed a sister province agreement to pursue economic and cultural partnerships and encourage twinning between their municipalities. Governor Kim also conferred honorary citizenship of Gyeonggi Province on Premier Campbell.^{iv}
- To advance the relationship under the sister province MOU, an Action Plan (2010-2012) was signed in February 2010 and identified areas for bilateral cooperation, including personnel exchanges.^v
- In August 2011, B.C. and Gyeonggi signed an additional MOU on exchange of government officials. Gyeonggi has sent four exchange officers to B.C. under the agreement. B.C. has not dispatched any officers to Gyeonggi.^{vi}

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- A second three-year Action Plan (2013-2016) was signed in Korea on November 2013 and focussed on cooperation in the areas of clean energy, digital media and wireless, agri-foods, marine leisure, and personal exchanges and market development cooperation.^{vii}
- A new or renewed action plan will be signed during a Premier's visit to Korea in 2018.
- Gyeonggi also has a sister-province relationship with Guangdong Province (China), as does British Columbia.^{viii}

ⁱ From B.C.-Gyeonggi MOU.

ⁱⁱ From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx

ⁱⁱⁱ From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx

^{iv} From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm

^v From JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx

^{vi} From JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx

^{vii} Based on info in JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx

^{viii} ^{viii} From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm

ISSUE: B.C.-Gyeonggi (South Korea) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In May 2008, B.C. and South Korea's Gyeonggi Province established a sister province relationship formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).ⁱ
- Gyeonggi and B.C. are committed to continuing to promote economic and government-to-government cooperation.
- B.C. and Gyeonggi are exploring opportunities for signing a renewed Action Plan to mark the 10th anniversary of our sister province relationship.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1997, then B.C. Premier Dan Miller signed an MOU on Economic Cooperation with Gyeonggi Province in South Korea.ⁱⁱ
- In 2007, B.C.'s Asia Pacific Trade Council released its Korea Market Advisory Group report that recommended that the Province of British Columbia "expand and strengthen the Economic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with Gyeonggi Province to a full sister-province relationship, similar to the B.C.-Guangdong (China) sister-province relationship, and encourage the development of a strategic twinning network in South Korea with B.C. municipalities and transportation/gateway stakeholders."ⁱⁱⁱ
- On May 19, 2008, then B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell and Gyeonggi Governor Moon-Soo Kim signed a sister province agreement to pursue economic and cultural partnerships and encourage twinning between their municipalities. Governor Kim also conferred honorary citizenship of Gyeonggi Province on Premier Campbell.^{iv}
- To advance the relationship under the sister province MOU, an Action Plan (2010-2012) was signed in February 2010 and identified areas for bilateral cooperation, including personnel exchanges.^v
- In August 2011, B.C. and Gyeonggi signed an additional MOU on exchange of government officials. Gyeonggi has sent four exchange officers to B.C. under the agreement. B.C. has not dispatched any officers to Gyeonggi.^{vi}
- A second three-year Action Plan (2013-2016) was signed in Korea on November 2013 and focussed on cooperation in the areas of clean energy, digital media and wireless, agri-foods, marine leisure, and personal exchanges and market development cooperation.^{vii}
- A new or renewed action plan could be signed during the Premier's visit to Korea in 2018.
- Gyeonggi also has a sister-province relationship with Guangdong Province (China), as does British Columbia.^{viii}

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ⁱ From B.C.-Gyeonggi MOU. May 19, 2008.

ⁱⁱ From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx. August 17, 2007.

ⁱⁱⁱ From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx. August 17, 2007.

^{iv} From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm. May 19, 2008.

^v From JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^{vi} From JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^{vii} Based on info in JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

^{viii} ^{viii} From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm. May 19, 2008.

ISSUE: B.C.-Gyeonggi (South Korea) Sister Province Relationship

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In May 2008, B.C. and South Korea's Gyeonggi Province established a sister province relationship formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).¹
- Gyeonggi and B.C. are committed to continuing to promote economic and government-to-government cooperation.
- B.C. and Gyeonggi are exploring opportunities for signing a renewed Action Plan to mark the 10th anniversary of our sister province relationship.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In 1997, then B.C. Premier Dan Miller signed an MOU on Economic Cooperation with Gyeonggi Province in South Korea.²
- In 2007, B.C.'s Asia Pacific Trade Council released its Korea Market Advisory Group report that recommended that the Province of British Columbia "expand and strengthen the Economic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with Gyeonggi Province to a full sister-province relationship, similar to the B.C.-Guangdong (China) sister-province relationship, and encourage the development of a strategic twinning network in South Korea with B.C. municipalities and transportation/gateway stakeholders."³
- On May 19, 2008, then B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell and Gyeonggi Governor Moon-Soo Kim signed a sister province agreement to pursue economic and cultural partnerships and encourage twinning between their municipalities. Governor Kim also conferred honorary citizenship of Gyeonggi Province on Premier Campbell.⁴
- To advance the relationship under the sister province MOU, an Action Plan (2010-2012) was signed in February 2010 and identified areas for bilateral cooperation, including personnel exchanges.⁵
- In August 2011, B.C. and Gyeonggi signed an additional MOU on exchange of government officials. Gyeonggi has sent four exchange officers to B.C. under the agreement. B.C. has not dispatched any officers to Gyeonggi.⁶
- A second three-year Action Plan (2013-2016) was signed in Korea on November 2013 and focussed on cooperation in the areas of clean energy, digital media and wireless, agri-foods, marine leisure, and personal exchanges and market development cooperation.⁷
- A new or renewed action plan could be signed during the Premier's visit to Korea in 2018.
- Gyeonggi also has a sister-province relationship with Guangdong Province (China), as does British Columbia.⁸

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¹ From B.C.-Gyeonggi MOU. May 19, 2008.

² From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx. August 17, 2007.

³ From IGRS note: PGC - 3666 Gyeonggi Decision Note.docx. August 17, 2007.

⁴ From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm.
May 19, 2008.

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⁷ Based on info in JTT note: Note on Gyeonggi Exchange Officer II.docx. Provided by JTT on October 12, 2017.

⁸ ⁸ From news release: https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2005-2009/2008otp0123-000743.htm.
May 19, 2008.

ISSUE: Taiwan

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. and Taiwan enjoy strong economic and cultural ties, and the B.C. continues to look for opportunities to build on this long tradition.**
- **B.C. follows Canada's One China policy, and does not maintain government-to-government relations with Taipei, but has consistently sought to maintain and expand commercial ties and people-to-people relations with both mainland China and Taiwan.**
- **B.C. engages with Taiwan on a regular basis through the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Vancouver and the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) in Taipei to coordinate trade delegations from B.C. heading to Taiwan to participate in important trade shows.**
- **We will continue to work with local Taiwanese trade representatives in Vancouver as well as the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei (CTOT) to further advance the two-way trade and investment relationship.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The island of Taiwan is known officially as the Republic of China (ROC), as distinct from the People's Republic of China (PRC), or mainland China.
- China regards Taiwan as an integral part of Chinese territory and most nations, including Canada, do not recognize it as an independent and sovereign state. Any country that wishes to maintain diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China must adhere to a One China policy, acknowledging Beijing's claim that the Chinese mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau constitute together a single unified China.
- Since October 13, 1970, Canada's One China Policy recognizes the People's Republic of China (PRC) as the sole legitimate government of China, noting – but neither endorsing nor challenging – its claims on Taiwan, allowing Canada to maintain unofficial but valuable economic and people-to-people ties with Taiwan. Although Canada does not have official government-to-government relations with Taipei, Canada maintains unofficial economic and people-to-people ties with Taiwan.

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ISSUE: Taiwan

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- **B.C. engages with Taiwan on a regular basis through the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Vancouver and the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) in Taipei to coordinate trade delegations from B.C. heading to Taiwan to participate in important trade shows.**
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s.13,s.16

ⁱ Based on IGRS note: BC_Taiwan_Guidelines_Sept_2017.docx

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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ⁱⁱ From Global Affairs Canada note: Canada's One China Policy.docx

ⁱⁱⁱ From Global Affairs Canada note: Canada's One China Policy.docx

ISSUE: Taiwan

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- **B.C. follows Canada's One China policy, and does not maintain government-to-government relations with Taipei, but has consistently sought to maintain and expand commercial ties and people-to-people relations with both mainland China and Taiwan.ⁱ**
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s.13,s.16
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ⁱⁱ From Global Affairs Canada note: Canada's One China Policy.docx. Provided to IGRS on October 12, 2017.

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ISSUE: Taiwan

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BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- B.C. pursues economic and business relations with Taiwanese businesses, but not government-to-government relations.
- China regards Taiwan as an integral part of Chinese territory and most nations, including Canada, do not recognize it as an independent and sovereign state. Any country that wishes to maintain diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China must adhere to a One China policy, acknowledging Beijing's claim that the Chinese mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau together constitute a single unified China.
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ISSUE: B.C. International Trade and Investment Representative (TIR) Network

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- British Columbia's network of overseas offices provide a key link between B.C. companies and their international counterparts, facilitating trade deals and investment attraction which is vital to the health of the B.C. economy.ⁱ
- The province's trade and investment representative (TIR) offices consist of small teams of business development professionals who are dedicated to assisting B.C. companies, municipalities, and institutions in making successful connections in their local markets.ⁱⁱ
- The TIR offices are focused on priority industry sectors in technology, natural resources and services which are aligned with B.C. government priorities.ⁱⁱⁱ
- B.C.'s TIR teams provide local, on-the-ground connections, language and cultural support and advice in promoting export growth in goods and services, attracting foreign investment, and driving innovation by fostering collaborative technological research and development relationships.^{iv}
- Through their business facilitation work—as well as their advice on emerging opportunities in key markets—B.C.'s overseas offices are a significant contributor to B.C.'s current and future economic growth.^v
- B.C. understands that the foundation of long standing international relations relies on building and sustaining relationships at many levels: business, political, academic and cultural. B.C.'s TIR network of offices assist in advancing this goal.^{vi}

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- TIRs are selected through transparent and rigorous public requests for qualification (RFQ) and proposal (RFP) processes. TIRs provide services to the Province on a contract basis.^{vii}
- The TIRs are subject to a rigorous performance management system, with yearly performance measure targets assigned in their contracts including number of trade deals signed, foreign direct investment attracted, and strategic partnership agreements completed between B.C. and international counterparts.^{viii}

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Compensation is based on competitive salary studies in each market and includes an annual performance-based hold-back.^{ix}
- Contracts are typically three-year terms with annual evaluation and renewal based on performance and client feedback. All contracts can be severed at any time, with appropriate legal notice periods laid out in each contract.^x
- The anticipated contractual obligations include all fees for the contractor and support staff, an operating budget, as well as programming funds for trade and investment events. Breakdown by region is attached.^{xi}

ⁱ From JTT estimates note. August 22, 2017.

ⁱⁱ From JTT estimates note. August 22, 2017.

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- **B.C. understands that the foundation of long standing international relations relies on building and sustaining relationships at many levels: business, political, academic and cultural. B.C.’s TIR network of offices assist in advancing this goal.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- **Trade and Investment Representatives (TIRs) help B.C. businesses connect with potential buyers, investors and other key partners in global markets. They also help international businesses discover the benefits of B.C. as a destination for investment, as a partner for trade and innovation, and as a source of quality goods, services and resources around the world.**

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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ISSUE: B.C. Trade and Investment Representative Offices in Southeast Asia

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **As a group, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) markets comprise B.C.'s 6th most important trading partner with \$769 million exported in 2016.ⁱ**
- **In 2016, B.C. established offices in Manila, Philippines and Jakarta, Indonesia to represent the province's trade and investment interests in Southeast Asia.ⁱⁱ**
- **To further support B.C.'s interests in Southeast Asia, the Province has decided to establish a new Trade and Investment Representative Office in Singapore.ⁱⁱⁱ**
- **As with the offices in Manila and Jakarta, the new Trade and Investment Representative for Singapore will be selected through a request for proposal process.^{iv}**
- **Establishing a new trade presence in Singapore will serve to support British Columbia companies and facilitate trade and investment ties in Malaysia, Singapore, and the broader ASEAN region.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional group of 10 countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.^v
- If ASEAN were a single country, its annual output of US\$2.5 trillion would make it the world's seventh-largest economy and its 600 million citizens would constitute the world's third-largest labour force.^{vi}
- B.C.'s largest market in the ASEAN region is Indonesia, followed by the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand.^{vii}
- The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology (JTT) determined the importance of establishing a presence for B.C. in Southeast Asia through a data-driven analysis of trade and investment opportunities throughout the ASEAN region. JTT's determination was supported by an independent analysis by a leading market research firm, as well as a review of market research.^{viii}

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- A B.C. trade presence in Singapore will serve the many B.C. companies with interests in both Singapore and Malaysia. Singapore is an international hub for global trade shows and conferences. Each year, dozens of B.C. companies participate in events such as the Singapore Air Show, CommunicAsia, Food Hotel Asia, and International Water Week.^{ix}
- On September 8, 2017, Canada and representatives from the ASEAN member nations agreed to launch exploratory discussions and a joint feasibility study to determine the potential for a free trade agreement (FTA). Canada is expected to launch public consultations on a possible Canada-ASEAN FTA in the near future.^x

ⁱ From JTT estimates note.

ⁱⁱ From JTT estimates note.

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^{iv} From JTT estimates note.

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^{vi} From JTT estimates note.

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ⁱ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

ⁱⁱ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

ⁱⁱⁱ Based on information in JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

^{iv} From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

^v <http://asean.org/asean/asean-member-states/>. October 20, 2017.

^{vi} From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

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- **In 2016, B.C. established offices in Manila, Philippines and Jakarta, Indonesia to represent the province's trade and investment interests in Southeast Asia.²**
- **To further support B.C.'s interests in Southeast Asia, the Province has decided to establish a new Trade and Investment Representative Office in Singapore.³**
- **As with the offices in Manila and Jakarta, the new Trade and Investment Representative (TIR) for Singapore will be selected through a request for proposal process.⁴**
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- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional group of 10 countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.⁵
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- The TIRs are subject to a rigorous performance management system, with yearly performance measure targets assigned in their contracts including number of trade deals signed, foreign direct investment attracted, and strategic partnership agreements completed between B.C. and international counterparts.¹¹
- On September 8, 2017, Canada and representatives from the ASEAN member nations agreed to launch exploratory discussions and a joint feasibility study to determine the potential for a free trade agreement (FTA). Canada is expected to launch public consultations on a possible Canada-ASEAN FTA.¹²

¹ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

² From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

³ Based on information in JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

⁴ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

⁵ <http://asean.org/asean/asean-member-states/>. October 20, 2017.

⁶ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

⁷ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

⁸ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

⁹ From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

¹⁰ From JTT estimates note. August 22, 2017.

¹¹ From JTT estimates note. August 22, 2017.

¹² From JTT estimates note. September 28, 2017.

ISSUE: ASEAN Trade and Investment Representative (TIR) Offices

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Province established representation for B.C. in Southeast Asia with offices in Manila, Philippines, and Jakarta, Indonesia in 2016.**
- **The contractors in Manila and Jakarta were selected through a request for proposal process to provide representative services to British Columbia in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region.**
- **A trade presence in the Philippines and Indonesia supports B.C. companies to identify and capitalize on new trade and investment opportunities in a market that is experiencing significant economic growth itself.**

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BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- ASEAN is a regional grouping made up of 10 countries—Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam—with varying political, economic and socio-cultural systems. If ASEAN were a single country, its annual output of US\$2.5 trillion would make it the world’s seventh-largest economy, and its 600 million people would constitute the world’s third-largest labour force.
- As a group, ASEAN markets comprise B.C.’s 6th most important trading partner with \$769 million exported in 2016.
- B.C.’s largest market in ASEAN is Indonesia followed by the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand.
- ASEAN companies are also valuable contributors to B.C.’s economy and their investments have benefitted our local communities.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- The Ministry determined the importance of establishing a presence for B.C. in Southeast Asia through a data-driven analysis of trade and investment opportunities throughout the ASEAN region. This included an independent analysis of opportunities by a leading market research firm as well as a review of market research conducted by partner ministries and other levels of government.
- A B.C. trade presence in Singapore will serve the many B.C. companies with an interest in the Singapore/Malaysia region. Singapore is an international hub for global trade shows and conferences. Each year, dozens of B.C. companies participate in events such as the Singapore Air Show, CommunicAsia, Food Hotel Asia, and International Water Week.
- On September 8, 2017, Canada and representatives from the ASEAN member states agreed to launch exploratory discussions and a joint feasibility study to determine the potential for a free trade agreement (FTA). Canada is also expected to launch public consultations on a possible Canada-ASEAN FTA in the near future.

ISSUE: Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. depends on trade and investment for economic growth and job generation. With a market of half a billion people, the European Union is the largest trading bloc and source of investment in the world.ⁱ**
- **CETA provides opportunities for our exporters of goods and services.ⁱⁱ**
- **CETA makes Canada an attractive destination for foreign investment, and a more attractive partner for additional trade agreements, including with high growth economies in Asia.ⁱⁱⁱ**
- **The federal Minister of International Trade is mandated to work with provinces and territories to support adjustment in sectors arising from CETA.^{iv}**
- **CETA includes commitments for both Canada and the E.U. to provide access to government procurement, including at the municipal level.^v**
- **Under CETA, B.C. suppliers of goods and services have gained preferential access to the E.U.'s vast \$3 trillion procurement market.^{vi}**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The CETA came into effect through provisional application on September 21, 2017.^{vii}
- The E.U. was B.C.'s fifth largest export destination, with \$1.7 billion in goods going there in 2016 (top goods exports included: coal, wood products, pulp and paper, machinery and equipment and metallic minerals).^{viii}
- The E.U. market consists of over 500 million people and a combined GDP of USD 16.5 trillion.^{ix}
- CETA covers all sectors of the economy. Immediate benefits will be realized for products that face high tariffs, which makes them less competitive entering the E.U.: wood and wood products (3 per cent to 10 per cent); fish and seafood (8 per cent to 15 per cent); berries (12 per cent to 21 per cent), fruit juices (34 per cent); clothing (12 per cent); and bicycles (15 per cent).^x

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- Upon provisional application (September 21, 2017), 98% of E.U. tariffs were eliminated immediately. After a period of seven years, 99% of E.U. tariffs will be removed, making B.C. products more competitive in the E.U. market.^{xi}
- CETA includes provisions to ease the movement of professional service providers, benefitting B.C.'s consulting engineers, technicians and technologies, architects and others.^{xii}

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ⁱ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.
ⁱⁱ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.
ⁱⁱⁱ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.
^{iv} From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.
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- **The federal Minister of International Trade is mandated to work with provinces and territories to support adjustment in sectors arising from CETA.**
- **CETA includes commitments for both Canada and the E.U. to provide access to government procurement, including at the municipal level.**
- **Under CETA, B.C. suppliers of goods and services have gained preferential access to the E.U.'s vast \$3 trillion procurement market.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The CETA came into effect through provisional application on September 21, 2017.
- The E.U. was B.C.'s fifth largest export destination, with \$1.7 billion in goods going there in 2016 (top goods exports included: coal, wood products, pulp and paper, machinery and equipment and metallic minerals).
- The E.U. market consists of over 500 million people and a combined GDP of USD \$16.5 trillion.
- CETA covers all sectors of the economy. Immediate benefits will be realized for products that face high tariffs, which makes them less competitive entering the E.U.: wood and wood products (3 per cent to 10 per cent); fish and seafood (8 per cent to 15 per cent); berries (12 per cent to 21 per cent), fruit juices (34 per cent); clothing (12 per cent); and bicycles (15 per cent).

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Upon provisional application (September 21, 2017), 98% of E.U. tariffs were eliminated immediately. After a period of seven years, 99% of E.U. tariffs will be removed, making B.C. products more competitive in the E.U. market.
- CETA includes provisions to ease the movement of professional service providers, benefitting B.C.'s consulting engineers, technicians and technologies, architects and others.

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ISSUE: Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **B.C. depends on trade and investment for economic growth and job generation. With a market of half a billion people, the European Union is the largest trading bloc and source of investment in the world.¹**
- **CETA provides opportunities for our exporters of goods and services.²**
- **CETA makes Canada an attractive destination for foreign investment, and a more attractive partner for additional trade agreements, including with high growth economies in Asia.³**
- **The federal Minister of International Trade is mandated to work with provinces and territories to support adjustment in sectors arising from CETA.⁴**
- **CETA includes commitments for both Canada and the E.U. to provide access to government procurement, including at the municipal level.⁵**
- **Under CETA, B.C. suppliers of goods and services have gained preferential access to the E.U.'s vast \$3 trillion procurement market.⁶**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- **The CETA came into effect through provisional application on September 21, 2017.⁷**
- **The E.U. was B.C.'s fifth largest export destination, with \$1.7 billion in goods going there in 2016 (top goods exports included: coal, wood products, pulp and paper, machinery and equipment and metallic minerals).⁸**
- **The E.U. market consists of over 500 million people and a combined GDP of USD 16.5 trillion.⁹**
- **CETA covers all sectors of the economy. Immediate benefits will be realized for products that face high tariffs, which makes them less competitive entering the E.U.: wood and wood products (3 per cent to 10 per cent); fish and seafood (8 per cent to 15 per cent); berries (12 per cent to 21 per cent), fruit juices (34 per cent); clothing (12 per cent); and bicycles (15 per cent).¹⁰**

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ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Upon provisional application (September 21, 2017), 98% of E.U. tariffs were eliminated immediately. After a period of seven years, 99% of E.U. tariffs will be removed, making B.C. products more competitive in the E.U. market.¹¹
- CETA includes provisions to ease the movement of professional service providers, benefitting B.C.'s consulting engineers, technicians and technologies, architects and others.¹²

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¹ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

² From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

³ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁴ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁵ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁶ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁷ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁸ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

⁹ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

¹⁰ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

¹¹ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

¹² From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

¹³ From JTT estimates note. October 2, 2017.

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, the Office of Protocol coordinated the week-long Royal Tour of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and their children to B.C., as well as more than 85 visits by foreign dignitaries and officials to the Province. The number of visits in 2016 was less than normal years due to the impact on resources of the Royal Tour and the Office’s ability to defer a number of visits to 2017.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The Office of Protocol, within the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat, is the principal point of contact for the BC 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 Queen, 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, etc.
- The BC Consular Corps comprises 32 consular posts staffed by foreign officers and 56 consular posts staffed by honorary consular officers. In total 83 countries have representation based in BC.
- There are four international organizations based in BC: The Commonwealth of Learning, North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, North Pacific Marine Science Organization and the Pacific Salmon Commission. 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.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- The Office of Protocol generally organizes two briefings per year for the Consular Corps by ministers and senior government staff. In March 2017, the Minister responsible for relations with the Consular Corps hosted a luncheon leading into presentations by ICBC, the Deputy Minister of Emergency Preparedness, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer and senior government officials responsible for immigration.

ISSUE: Order of British Columbia (OBC)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Order of British Columbia recognizes individuals who have served with the greatest distinction and excelled in any field of endeavour benefiting the people of the Province or elsewhere. The Order represents the highest form of recognition the Province can extend to its citizens.**
- **Since the Order of British Columbia was established in 1989, the Province has recognized 402 British Columbians from a variety of sectors including the business, volunteer, arts and sporting communities.**
- **Normal timelines have been affected this year by the election and transition to a new government. It is expected that an announcement regarding this year's recipients of the OBC will occur before the end of 2017.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

The Order of British Columbia (OBC) was created in April 1989 under the authority of the *Provincial Symbols and Honours Act*, which is under the responsibility of IGRS.

The Honourable Judith Guichon, O.B.C., Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia is Chancellor of the Order.

Nominations are accepted year round with an administrative deadline of the first Friday in March (March 3, 2017).

The composition of the selection committee, i.e. "Advisory Council", is established by legislation.

The seven-member Advisory Council for 2017 consists of:

- the Chief Justice of British Columbia (chair), **The Honourable Robert J. Bauman**
- the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, **The Honourable Darryl Plecas**
- a Public University President in rotation (two-year term), **Dr. Alan Davis, Kwantlen Polytechnic University**
- the President of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, **Wendy Booth**
- the Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat, **Okenge Yuma Morisho** and
- two past members of the Order, **Kim Baird, O.C., O.B.C.** and **Janet Austin, O.B.C.**

OBC appointments are made by Order-in-Council.

After first approval (by President of the Executive Council or alternate), recipients are contacted for verbal acceptance. The Orders-in-Council appointing new members are only signed by the Presiding member and Lieutenant Governor after all recipients have verbally accepted and signed recipient declaration forms.

ISSUE: Medal of Good Citizenship (MGC)

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In 2015, the Government of British Columbia launched the Medal of Good Citizenship, which was established in 1989 under the *Provincial Symbols and Honours Act* to recognize individuals who have acted in a particularly generous, kind or selfless manner for the common good without expectation of reward. The medal reflects their acts of selflessness, generosity, and service to community life.
- Nominations are received year round and are considered by the committee at the call of the Chair. As of March 31, 2017, 39 citizens and two communities have received the Medal.
- Timelines have been affected this year by the election and transition to a new government. It is expected that an announcement regarding recipients of the Medal will occur in 2018.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

The Medal of Good Citizenship is governed by the *Provincial Symbols and Honours Act*, which is under the responsibility of the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat (IGRS).

The Medal is an ongoing and official honour (pending approval from the Honours Policy Sub-Committee with the Chancellery in Ottawa). It is managed by the Honours and Awards Secretariat in the Office of Protocol in IGRS. The Honours and Awards Secretariat maintains the records of the selection committee and performs other duties as required.

Pursuant to the *Provincial Symbols and Honours Act*, the Medal of Good Citizenship Selection Committee consists of the following:

- (a) a Chair appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a term not exceeding 4 years;
- (b) up to 6 additional members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for terms not exceeding 2 years.

Persons wishing to serve on the selection committee, respond to a Notice of Position that is posted by the Board Resourcing and Development Office. The current selection committee is composed of five members:

1. The Honourable Lisa Beare, Chair, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
2. Kerry L. Cook, Williams Lake, Former Mayor of Williams Lake (term expires Dec. 31, 2018)

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

3. Councillor Christopher R. Derickson, Westbank, Westbank First Nation/Consultant, Derickson Consulting (term expires Dec. 31, 2018)
4. Gerald F. Furney, Port McNeil, Former Mayor of Port McNeil (term expires Dec. 31, 2018)
5. Margaret (Dawn) Martin, Terrace, Secretary and Treasurer, Makra Enterprises Ltd. (term expires Dec. 31, 2018)

Two positions remain vacant.

ISSUE: Canada-B.C. Official Languages Agreement on French Services

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- I appointed Minister Dix to be responsible for the Francophone Affairs Program on September, 27, 2017.
- B.C.'s Francophonie is an integral part of our province, contributing to a strong and inclusive society.
- Thanks to the Canada-B.C. Official Languages Agreement on French Services, B.C. has been able to support many initiatives that support the Francophone community such as:
 - Translation and web posting of various justice-related material, such as “If You Can’t Get Legal Aid for Your Criminal Trial”.
 - Educational videos on eating disorders and diet management problems. Used by health professionals, parents and young people, the videos present changes in philosophy and useful approaches for helping families whose children or teenagers are suffering from eating disorders or diet management problems.
 - Outreach to French speaking seniors to prevent and fight elder abuse through restorative justice.
 - The Économusées project (B.C. Artisans at Work) enhances the presence of the French language within the provincial artisanal small business community.
 - Purchase of French-language materials – increase French material in libraries around British Columbia by matching municipal budget for French material.
 - French legal terminology training for Crown Counsel – includes participating in French legal terminology seminars, obtaining specialized French legal terminology materials, and attending French continuing legal education programs.

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
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- **B.C. is committed to improving access to programs and services in French, and enhancing the vitality of French language and culture.**
- **B.C. will soon begin negotiations of a new agreement with the federal government. Minister Dix will be working with our federal and our community partners to advance common priorities.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

The Canada-B.C. Official Languages Agreement on French Services was first signed in 2001.

Under the current agreement (2013-2018), the federal government provides annual funding of \$700,000. B.C. contributes the equivalent of \$700,000 in government services and information to meet the needs of French-speaking British Columbians.

With the current agreement set to expire in March 2018, B.C. and the federal government need to negotiate and sign a new agreement.

As part of the negotiation of the new agreement, the Province will review the results of a public engagement process and create a multi-year strategic plan.

2017-18 Budget Adjustments

IGRS

PREM Budget Fix

IGRS: \$362,000

- \$ 77,000:

\$ 72,000 (salaries) + \$5,000 (benefits) -- Position of Exec Director, Economic Policy and Asia Initiatives left unfilled upon retirement of the incumbent and savings were reprofiled towards 2 more junior positions. These 2 positions provide stronger bench strength and provide more capacity in expert analysis to support the delivery of the mandate. (1 entry-level position and 1 mid-management position)

- The rest, i.e. Data Operations (\$ 32,000), Postage (\$ 11,000), PNWER dues (\$ 66,000), and COF dues (\$ 176,000)
 - o These costs were paid by the Ministry of Finance in the past.
 - o Having these now under the Premier's Office budget ensures transparency as it accurately reflects the costs to IGRS of doing business. The movement of these funds from the Ministry of Finance to IGRS addresses structural shortfalls experienced in the past.

**Office of the Premier
2017/18 Budget Adjustments by Issue**

	Premier's Office	Exec Operations	IGRS	Total
2016/17 Budget	3,033,000	3,512,000	2,453,000	8,998,000
2017/18 Increases				
PREM Budget Lift	23,000	1,615,000	362,000	2,000,000
Benefits Chargeback Rate Change	1,000	2,000	0	3,000
ESM Allocations	5,000	2,000	3,000	10,000
2017/18 Budget	3,062,000	5,131,000	2,818,000	11,011,000

	Premier's Office	Exec Operations	IGRS	Total
PREM Budget Fix				
Salaries and Benefits		1,177,000	77,000	1,254,000
Data operations	15,000	49,000	32,000	96,000
Records		19,000		19,000
Postage	8,000		11,000	19,000
Pacific Carbon Trust		5,000		5,000
PNWER			66,000	66,000
Council of the Federation			176,000	176,000
Corp HR Initiatives Fund		15,000		15,000
IMB Recovery and Incremental Storage		350,000		350,000
Total	23,000	1,615,000	362,000	2,000,000

**Office of the Premier
September 2017 Budget Adjustments by STOB**

STOB	2016/17 Restated	Feb ESM Adjustment	Chargeback Rate Adjustment	Feb IGRS		2017/18
				STOB Realignment	Sep PREM Budget Lift	
50 Salaries and Overtime	6,248,000	8,000	1,000		1,005,000	7,262,000
51 Supplementary Salary Costs	39,000					39,000
52 Employee Benefits	1,605,000	2,000	3,000		249,000	1,859,000
54 Legislative Salaries & Indemnities	108,000					108,000
Subtotal - Salaries and Benefits	8,000,000	10,000	4,000	0	1,254,000	9,268,000
57 Travel	405,000					405,000
59 Legal Services	64,000					64,000
60 Prof. Services - Operational	16,000			22,000		38,000
61 Prof. Services - Advisory	50,000					50,000
63 Information Systems - Operating	143,000				96,000	239,000
65 Office & Business Expenses	766,000			1,000	109,000	876,000
69 Utilities, Materials, & Supplies	6,000					6,000
70 Operating Equip. & Vehicles	30,000					30,000
73 Amortization Expense	12,000					12,000
75 Building Occupancy Charges	13,000					13,000
Subtotal - Operating Costs	1,505,000	0	0	23,000	205,000	1,733,000
77 Grants	451,000					451,000
80 Transfers under Agreement	95,000			140,000	176,000	411,000
Subtotal - Government Transfers	546,000	0	0	140,000	176,000	862,000
85 Other Expenses	294,000		(1,000)		365,000	658,000
Subtotal - Other Expenses	294,000	0	(1,000)	0	365,000	658,000
88 Recoveries within CRF	(646,000)			(163,000)		(809,000)
89 Recoveries within GRE	(1,000)					(1,000)
90 Recoveries External to the GRE	(700,000)					(700,000)
Subtotal - Recoveries	(1,347,000)	0	0	(163,000)	0	(1,510,000)
Total	8,998,000	10,000	3,000	0	2,000,000	11,011,000

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See Attached Note re \$362,000 Budget fix for IGRS

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**Office of the Premier
2017/18 Budget Adjustments by Issue**

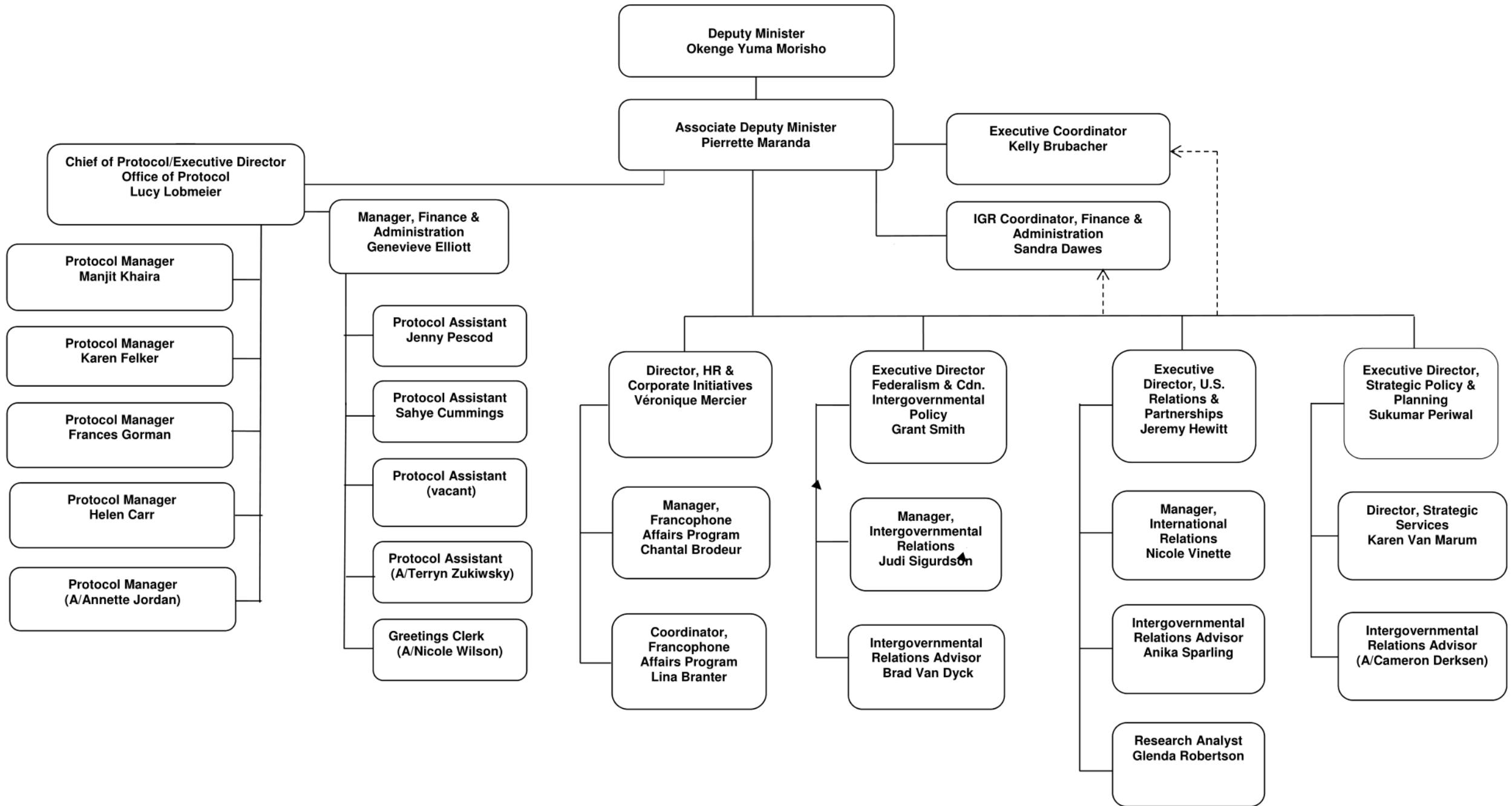
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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
Organization Chart (October 2017)**



ISSUE: New West Partnership

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In 2010, B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan launched the New West Partnership, which aims to eliminate unnecessary trade barriers, improve competitiveness, and enable the West to market itself as one region for purposes of export development and investment attraction.
- The New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA) is one component of the broader New West Partnership and is a comprehensive trade agreement between BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
- NWPTA creates the largest barrier-free economic region in Canada, with a combined population of over 11 million and a total Gross Domestic Product of over \$750 billion. NWPTA has no expiry date and remains in effect.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In April 2010, B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan launched the New West Partnership.
- The New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA) is one component of the broader New West Partnership. NWPTA came into force on July 1, 2010 and has been fully implemented since July 1, 2013. Manitoba joined the NWPTA on November 17, 2016.
- NWPTA has strong provisions requiring open and competitive access to government procurement opportunities, full labour mobility for regulated occupations, and mutual recognition or reconciliation of standards and regulations affecting trade.
- In addition to NWPTA, the New West Partnership also included three now-expired non-binding agreements for cooperation on international initiatives, innovation, and procurement.
- 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.

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ISSUE: Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Cannabis
Legalization

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The federal government has made a decision to legalize cannabis. Cannabis legalization is a complex issue that requires a focused approach by provinces and territories.**
- **To achieve better outcomes for Canadians as the provinces and territories plan for cannabis legalization, Premiers established a Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Cannabis Legalization in July 2017.**
- **This Working Group will report back to Premiers and identify common considerations and best practices to cannabis legalization and regulation, guided by the objectives of reducing harm, protecting public safety, and reducing illicit activity.**
- **B.C. launched its public and stakeholder engagement on September 25, 2017.**
- **Responses received through the online feedback form and written submissions from local governments, Indigenous governments and organizations and other key stakeholders will assist in informing the priority policy issues that will advance to government for decision.**

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- **At the July 2017 Council of the Federation meeting, Premiers noted that the administration and regulation, public education and law enforcement efforts necessary to support legalization will entail significant costs for provincial and territorial governments. The federal government, as the government advancing this policy change, needs to invest the appropriate resources to support cannabis legalization.**
- **Premiers also noted that there are challenges associated with the federal government's proposed implementation date of July 1, 2018. Premiers reiterated that federal engagement and information sharing will be required in order to manage this transition properly. Issues that need to be resolved include:**
 - **Road safety and enforcement mechanisms;**
 - **Preparation and training for distribution network;**
 - **Taxation arrangements and cost coverage;**
 - **Public education campaigns; and**

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- Supply, demand and relationship to black market.
- Premiers are concerned the federal timeline may be unrealistic, given the issues listed above. If these outstanding issues are not properly addressed by the federal government, provinces and territories may require an extension of the implementation date.
- The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, who is responsible for leading the safe implementation of cannabis legalization in B.C., has requested an extension to the July 2018 timeline. However, he has indicated B.C. will work towards that timeline as the federal government has given no indication that the date will be changed.
- Premiers will receive a report from the Working Group (led by provincial/territorial Ministers responsible for cannabis legalization) by November 1, 2017.

ISSUE: Offshore Schools in Korea

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In 2017, the Korean government made an unannounced mid-year change in their approach to school licensing of foreign curriculum schools and teacher work visas, including B.C. offshore schools. As a result, the Korean Government revoked the visas of 14 teachers at CBIS Canada School in Seoul and required them to leave Korea by May 11, 2017.ⁱ
- The Ministry of Education has informed all school owner/operators in Korea that B.C. would not be able to renew their certifications without Korean licences.ⁱⁱ
- B.C. continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Republic of Korea and welcomes many Korean international students to study in B.C. K-12 schools.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Korea continues to be the second largest source country for K-12 level international students studying in B.C. schools, with 2,990 Korean study permit holders in B.C. schools in 2016.^{iv}

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- The B.C. Ministry of Education began certifying schools in South Korea in 2009 with the most recent schools being certified in 2013.^v
- In 2017, an unannounced, mid-year change in the Korean government's approach to school licensing of foreign curriculum schools and teacher work visas—including B.C. offshore schools—took place. As a result, the Korean Government revoked the visas of 14 teachers at CBIS Canada School in Seoul and required them to leave Korea by May 11, 2017.^{vi}
- In July 2017, the Ministry of Education received confirmation through the Consulate General of Korea's office that the local licensing and approvals for the 4 remaining schools were not appropriate to operate a school in South Korea.^{vii}
- The Ministry of Education then informed the 4 remaining owner/operators that B.C. would not renew certification. The four other Korea-based schools were: British Columbia Collegiate Canada (Seoul), BIS Canada (Gyeonggi), SIS Canada (Sokcho), and Westminster Canadian Academy (Gyeonggi).^{viii}
- Local and national media produced stories regarding the issues with CBIS and specifically the B.C. teachers who were affected.^{ix}

*INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SECRETARIAT
ADVICE TO THE PREMIER*

- As a result of the events in Korea, the Ministry of Education undertook a comprehensive internal review of the B.C. Offshore School Program, including the five schools in Korea. It was determined student and school educational achievement were not factors in the school closures, as the schools in Korea performed above the Offshore School Program average on provincial exams and received school inspection reports commending the quality of the educational programming. In addition, 15 action items were identified for implementation over the next 24 months.^x

ⁱ From EDUC estimates note. September 12, 2017.

ⁱⁱ From EDUC “status update” note. September 7, 2017.

ⁱⁱⁱ From EDUC estimates note. September 12, 2017.

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RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- In 2017, an unannounced, mid-year change in the Korean Government's approach to school licensing of foreign curriculum schools and teacher work visas, including B.C. offshore schools arose. As a result, the Korean Government revoked the visas of 14 teachers at CBIS Canada School in Seoul and required them to leave Korea by May 11, 2017.
- The Ministry has informed all school owner/operators in Korea that B.C. would not be able to renew their certifications without Korean licences.
- B.C. continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Republic of Korea and welcomes many Korean international students to study in B.C. K-12 schools.
- Korea continues to be the second largest source country for K-12 level international students studying in B.C. schools, with 2,990 Korean study permit holders in B.C. schools in 2016.

BACKGROUND / STATUS:

- In June 2017 issues with school licensing and teacher visas led to the decertification of a B.C.-certified offshore school in Seoul, Korea (CBIS Canada School).
- The teacher visa issues resulted from a mid-year change in the Korean government's approach to foreign curriculum schools that also affected schools from other jurisdictions. 4 out of the 5 B.C. schools in South Korea were ultimately affected by this change.
- In July 2017, after receiving confirmation from the Consulate General of Korea that there were local government licensing/approval issues for B.C. schools in South Korea, the Ministry of Education sent letters to the 4 remaining B.C. offshore school owner/operators in Korea notifying them that their schools would not be re-certified for 2017/18.
- Since 1998, the Ministry of Education has administered the B.C. Global Education Program (commonly referred to as the B.C. Offshore School Program).
- At the start of the 2016/17 school year, there were 46 B.C.-certified schools in 8 countries, serving 12,484 K-12 students. This included five schools in Korea, enrolling 752 students and employing 89 B.C.-certified teachers.

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- In 2017, an unannounced, mid-year change in the Korean Government's approach to school licensing of foreign curriculum schools and teacher work visas, including B.C. offshore schools arose.
 - In 2013, the Korean Government had written to the B.C. Ministry of Education expressing some concern with the B.C. Offshore School Program in Korea.
 - In the interim, between 2013 and 2017, the Korean Government did not communicate to the B.C. Ministry of Education that it was considering a change in approach or that it was planning to take action against the schools.
- As a result, the Korean Government revoked the visas of 14 teachers at CBIS Canada School in Seoul and required them to leave Korea by May 11, 2017. In July 2017, the Ministry received confirmation through the Consulate General of Korea's office that the local licensing and approvals for the 4 remaining schools were not appropriate to operate a school in South Korea.
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