

## CABINET MINUTES (OPEN)

November 14, 2003

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:	Honourable Gordon Campbell	(PREM)
	Honourable George Abbott	(CA&WS)
	Honourable Bill Barisoff	(PR)
	Honourable Shirley Bond	(AE)
	Honourable Graham Bruce	(SD&L)
	Honourable Christy Clark	(MOE)
	Honourable Murray Coell	(HR)
	Honourable Rich Coleman	(PS&SG)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSIGR)
	Honourable Colin Hansen	(HS)
	Honourable Sindi Hawkins	(HP)
	Honourable Gordon Hogg	(CFD)
	Honourable Joyce Murray	(WL&AP)
	Honourable Richard Neufeld	(EM)
	Honourable Geoff Plant	(AG)
	Honourable Judith Reid	(MOT)
	Honourable Rick Thorpe	(CSE)
	Honourable John van Dongen	(AFF)
	Honourable Katherine Whittred	(MoSIL&HC)
Members Absent:	Honourable Gulzar Cheema	(MoSMH)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Ted Nebbeling	(MoSCC)
	Honourable Linda Reid	(MoSECD)
	Honourable Sandy Santori	(MS)
	Honourable Lynn Stephens	(MoSWE)

**A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION****1. Premier's Opening Remarks**

The Premier gave the highlights of the objectives and accomplishments of his trade mission to China and India. He also announced the Pine Beetle symposium in Quesnel, BC. He touched on plans that the Premiers have for proposals to Paul Martin for regular First Ministers' meetings.

**2. For Information: Wildfire Damage Compensation Update**

The Solicitor General provided an update - citing costs to the province of about \$550M from the summers' wildfires. He noted the federal government has been requested to respond to response and recovery costs of about \$200M under the disaster financial assistance plan.

He detailed how \$4M have been provided for programs ranging from a provincial emergency hardship fund, to economic development and revitalization for the Thompson-Nicola region, and for matching donations for economic development priorities for the North Thompson Relief Fund. He also touched on the purpose of the fire review being conducted throughout the province.

**3. For Decision: Oil and Gas Initiative II**

Cabinet reviewed a presentation "Creating the Most Competitive Oil and Gas Jurisdiction in North America". The presentation requested approval of initiatives in four areas: roads and infrastructure, royalties, regulatory best practices and service sector competitiveness.

Cabinet approved the increase in the royalty credit for resource road infrastructure from \$10M to \$30M a year for the next 3 years, to advance the royalty structure from just vertical deep drilling to encompass horizontal and directional drilling, to move to regulatory best practice, to further the Oil and Gas Commission to a single window agency, and to implement the four service sector strategy goals of procurement, business competitiveness, education and training, and deregulation.

**4. For Information: Health Update**

The Minister of Health Services presented a report "Health Expenditures - How BC Compares", for information.

The Minister of Health Planning presented a report on "Patient Satisfaction Surveys: Listening to Patients". Two surveys were proposed: one that gauged the public's perception of health care in our province and the other that will provide information on a patient's actual experience with a specific sector of the health care system, beginning with emergency departments and long term care.

Cabinet approved the patient satisfaction survey but asked the Minister to see if there has been a public survey already recently done by a reasonably independent agency and if so, to use that information. If not, then a public perceptions survey should be done in December to establish a baseline and Cabinet will await a report on the merits of a monthly, quarterly or annual follow-up, if necessary.

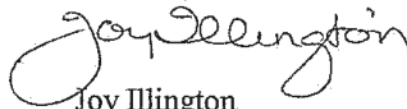
5. For Decision: Sliammon Agreement-in-Principle Ratification

Cabinet reviewed a submission on the "Sliammon Agreement-in-Principle Ratification." The Agreement-in-Principle has a land, cash and resources component, and provides for a concurrent law model. It has provisions for coordinating with local government on issues like land use planning, and services. It contains a regime for wildlife and fisheries management that ensures that treaty rights will be subject to conservation, public health and safety. There will be a commercial fishery negotiation to be concluded outside the treaty. There will be a governance agreement also outside the treaty, which will allow Sliammon First Nation lawmaking authority, similar to local government lawmaking authority.

Cabinet approved ratification for the Agreement-in-Principle on behalf of the Province and gave approval to proceed to final agreement negotiations.

6. Premier's Closing Remarks

The Premier noted that there have been three Agreements-in-Principle ratified by Cabinet, as well as over 260 different economic, land, and resource agreements signed since June 2001: 113 economic measures, 38 treaty related measures, and 90 land and resource related management agreements. He noted other initiatives like the 14 direct awards and consultation agreements in oil and gas, the MOU in regard to the transfer of child protection services, \$10M provided for Aboriginal health programs, and \$44M provided to improve Aboriginal student learning outcomes.

  
Joy Illington  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

## CABINET MINUTES

November 19, 2003  
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### Members Present:

Honourable Gordon Campbell	(PREM)
Honourable George Abbott	(CA&WS)
Honourable Bill Barisoff	(PR)
Honourable Shirley Bond	(AE)
Honourable Graham Bruce	(SD&L)
Honourable Gulzar Cheema	(MoSMH)
Honourable Christy Clark	(MOE)
Honourable Murray Coell	(HR)
Honourable Rich Coleman	(PS&SG)
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Honourable Colin Hansen	(HS)
Honourable Sindi Hawkins	(HP)
Honourable Gordon Hogg	(CFD)
Honourable Joyce Murray	(WL&AP)
Honourable Ted Nebbeling	(MoSCC)
Honourable Richard Neufeld	(EM)
Honourable Geoff Plant	(AG)
Honourable Judith Reid	(MOT)
Honourable Linda Reid	(MoSECD)
Honourable Sandy Santori	(MS)
Honourable Lynn Stephens	(MoSWE)
Honourable Rick Thorpe	(CSE)
Honourable John van Dongen	(AFF)
Honourable Katherine Whittred	(MoSIL&HC)

**A. CABINET MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of Meeting: October 29, 2003  
Approved.

Minutes of Meeting: November 14, 2003  
Approved.

**B. ORDERS IN COUNCIL:**

2. Appointments/Regulations

Cabinet reviewed and approved the attached list of Orders in Council and Proclamations with the following amendments:

- OIC appointing the Board under the *Assessment Act* was deferred; and
- OIC relating to the *Employment Standards Act* was withdrawn.

**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

3. For Decision: Lawsuits - Timber Licences and Royalty

Cabinet reviewed the submission and the history of this matter.

Cabinet requested the Minister responsible to inform the parties to the litigation of Cabinet's decision, in the public interest, to proceed with legislation at the earliest opportunity.

4. For Decision: Treasury Board Minutes:

Cabinet approved the Treasury Board decisions of their meeting of October 23, 2003 on the following:

**Item 1:** Treaty Negotiations Mandates; and

**Item 3:** Tsawwassen Agreement-in-Principle (AiP).

Cabinet reviewed the Treasury Board Minute of their meeting of October 28, 2003 on the following:

**Item 3:** Compensation to Logging and Road Building Contractors Impacted by the Nisga'a Final Agreement.

Cabinet directed TNO to fund up to \$1.5 M in 2003/04 for compensation to contractors impacted by the Nisga'a Final Agreement on the basis that the Minister of Forests will make best efforts to obtain releases from the 5 contractors involved. If there is a requirement for further funds to settle this claim, the Minister will return to Treasury Board to make the case.

Cabinet approved the Treasury Board decision of their meeting of October 30, 2003 on the following:

**Item 4:** Revised Cost Sharing Agreement with Translink.

[Honourable Gary Collins, Minister of Finance, withdrew from the meeting without participating in the consideration of Item 4: Revised Cost Sharing Agreement with Translink of the Treasury Board Minutes of October 30, 2003.]

Cabinet approved the Treasury Board decision of their meeting of November 4/6, 2003 on the following:

**Item 3:** First Nations Engagement Strategy.

For Information: BC Rail Update

Cabinet received a report on negotiations to date.

Cabinet authorized the negotiating team to seek an agreement on BC Rail Investment Partnership between the BC Rail Co. and CN.

**D. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The following reports were deferred until the next meeting of Cabinet.

5.
  - GCC: Natural Resources - October 21
  - GCC: Natural Resources - November 6
  - GCC: Communities and Safety - October 21
  - GCC: Economy and Government Operations - October 20
  - GCC: Economy and Government Operations - October 27
  - Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - October 20
  - Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - November 3 (1 Item)

**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION CONT'D**6. Question Period7. For Information: Legislative Update

This matter was not dealt with.

8. For Information: Health Issues Update

This matter was not dealt with.

9. For Information: Aboriginal/Legal Decisions Update

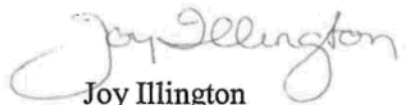
This matter was not dealt with.

**E. REPORTS:**10. Intergovernmental Relations Status Report

The IGR Status Report was received.

11. Other:**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION CONT'D**12. Joint GCC: Economy and Government Operations and  
GCC: Natural Resources - October 9  
For Decision: Climate Change

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of Cabinet.



Joy Illington  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary