

## CABINET MINUTES

November 26, 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)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSIGR)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	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)
Members Absent:	Honourable Katherine Whittred	(MoSIL&HC)

**A. CABINET MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of Meeting: November 19, 2003  
Approved.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

2.
  - GCC: Natural Resources - October 21s.14

The Chair reported the Committee's review and recommendation of the following legislative amendments:

s.14

- GCC: Natural Resources - November 6

s.14

- GCC: Communities and Safety - October 21

The Chair reported the Committee's review and recommendation of the following legislation:

s.14

The Chair also reported on the Cabinet submission on Tenure and Service Protection for Supportive and Assisted Tenancies.

Cabinet requested that a minimalist approach be taken that offers the equivalent protection of the current *Residential Tenancy Act*, but that also considers whether there is another option that encourages the private sector and tenants to govern themselves.

- GCC: Health - October 30

The Chair reported the Committee's review and recommendation of the following legislative amendments:

s.14

- Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - October 20

The Chair reported on the Committees deliberation on the Belsey Special Task Force, the co-ordination and funding efforts on noxious weeds, and the Lillooet Land and Resource Management Plan.

- Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - November 3 (1 Item)

The Chair reported on the Committee's recommendations on the Extensive Agricultural Program Policy amendments, the Crown Land and Timber Direct Sale Project. The Chair reported on the development of a coordinated approach to various land use and resource management initiatives.

- Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - November 17

The Chair reported on the need to develop a strategy to address provincial concerns regarding the Department of Fisheries and Ocean's administrative actions as they impact economic activities in the province. The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries will assume responsibility for this, supported by a Deputy Ministers' Committee.

[Honourable Judith Reid, Minister of Transportation, withdrew from the meeting without participating in the consideration of this report.]

**C. ORDERS IN COUNCIL:**

**3. Appointments/Regulations**

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

s.14

**D. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

4. Joint GCC: Economy and Government Operations and  
GCC: Natural Resources - October 9  
For Decision: Climate Change

The Chair reported the GCC's concerns about the potential costs to the economy of the province.

Cabinet was asked to endorse the release of the draft Climate Change Plan to the public for comment.

Cabinet asked that the concerns of the GCC be responded to, particularly in terms of costs and benefits and that prior to posting the plan on any web-site, the draft Climate Change plan come back for approval for public release.

5. For Decision: Royal BC Museum

This item was withdrawn.

6. For Decision: Treasury Board Minutes:

Cabinet approved the Treasury Board decisions of their meeting of November 19, 2003 on the following:

**Item 2:** Alternative Service Delivery - Workstations Project;

**Item 4:** Comprehensive Land Management Policy Framework; and

**Item 5:** Amendments to Section 60 and Part 13 of the *Forest Act*.

7. For Decision: Energy Plan Implementation

Cabinet reviewed the submission "Energy Plan Implementation", dated November 20, 2004, which proposed Government's response to the BC Utilities Commission's Report and Recommendations regarding the Heritage Contract, stepped rates and transmission access.

Cabinet approved the recommended government response, as outlined in Attachments 1 to 5 of the submission and contained in the Summary Table.

Four OICs were approved; s.14

s.14

s.14

[Honourable Christy Clark, Minister of Education, withdrew from the meeting without participating in the discussion of this item.]

8. Question Period Preparation

9. For Decision: BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo)

Cabinet reviewed the submission "Future of BC Pavilion Corporation" dated November 19, 2004.

Cabinet approved the recommendation that BC PavCo be retained as an interim measure as a Crown to provide functions for the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium. Funding is subject to Treasury Board approval of the PavCo budget and approval of the Service Plan 2004/05-2006/07.

[Honourable Colin Hansen, Minister of Health Services, declared a conflict and withdrew from the meeting without participating in the decision of this item.]

10. For Decision: Open Cabinet Agenda - December 10

Cabinet reviewed and amended the proposed agenda.

Cabinet expressly waived confidentiality for the specific topics to be discussed at the December 10 meeting only.

Cabinet authorized the release of documents to the public that will be utilized at the Open Cabinet meeting, subject to any legal requirements. This waiver of confidentiality is specific to this meeting and to those supporting documents utilized at the meeting only.

11. For Information: Legislative Update

The House Leader noted the upcoming meeting to deal with legislation that may be deferred from the Spring 04 agenda.

12. For Information: Health Issues Update

The Ministers of Health Services and of Health Planning provided updates on a national Committee and on the Provincial Health Officers report.

13. For Information: Aboriginal/Legal Decisions Update

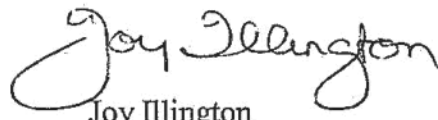
This item was not dealt with.

E. REPORTS:

The Intergovernmental Relations Status Report was received.

15. Other:

The merger of CanFor and Slocan was discussed and the Minister's responsibilities noted.

  
Joy Illington  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

## CABINET MINUTES

December 3, 2003  
8:00 a.m. - 1:45 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)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSIGR)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	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)
Members Absent:	Honourable Katherine Whittred	(MoSIL&HC)

**A. CABINET MINUTES:**1. Minutes of Meeting: November 26, 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:

- s.14
- 

**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**3. For Decision: Fees and Licences

Cabinet reviewed the submission "Conclusion of Cross-Government Fees and Licences Comprehensive Review and New Fee Approvals Process", dated October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Cabinet approved it with 2 amendments:

Recommendations 1 and 2 were approved.

Recommendation 3 was approved with a change to the process described in Appendix 11. Fee proposals will be reviewed by the relevant Government Caucus Committee, and if recommended, they will go to Treasury Board for final approval (cutting out the step of going to the GCC: Economy and Government Operations as a second GCC review). Recommendation 4 was approved with the addition that the next comprehensive review be conducted by way of an audit of 10% of government's fees selected at random.

4. For Information: Update on the BC College of Teachers

Cabinet was provided with an update on the BC College of the Teachers. Cabinet requested that the Minister responsible return to Cabinet next week with some options for resolution.



5. For Information: Northern Development Initiative

Cabinet was briefed on the essential elements of the trust; the three operating accounts; the criteria for funding; the areas to which it would apply; the membership of the regional advisory committees and the way that membership to the central Board would be determined.

s.14

6. For Information: BC Rail First Nations Benefits Trust

Cabinet was briefed on the essential elements of the trust. It was confirmed that eligibility for trust funds is not connected with any aboriginal claim related to land associated with the BC Rail right of way. The criteria for expenditure of the funds is related to economic development, protection of aboriginal language or culture and for aboriginal youth apprenticeship training.

Consultation will occur on how the Board will be established with the majority of members representing the First Nations along the BC Rail corridor, and government appointing a minority of members.

Cabinet asked for clarification on how the First Nations were selected.

7. GCC: Health - November 27, 2003

The Chair reported on the discussion of the members on the submission "Use of Automated Sight Testing Devices by Opticians." The Chair reported that there had been little time to discuss the Safe Care discussion paper.

Cabinet directed the Chair to bring the Safe Care discussion paper back to the members for a full discussion of the policy issues.

For Decision: Use of Automated Sight-Testing Devices by Opticians

Cabinet reviewed the submission, dated November 27, 2003, and the associated Powerpoint.

Cabinet approved Option 3 which permitted sight testing by opticians under conditions which assure patient safety.

8. Question Period Preparation9. For Information: Safe Care

This issue was referred back to the GCC: Health for full discussion.

10. For Information: Legislative Update

The House Leader and Attorney General were delegated to bring in final recommendations for the 2004 Spring and Fall legislative sessions and deferrals. The Premier reminded Ministers that meeting deadlines was a priority for the legislative agenda, and asked that any new legislation be clear about the benefits that it was providing.

11. For Information: Health Issues Update

The Minister of Health Services and the Minister of Health Planning provided updates to Cabinet.

12. For Information: Aboriginal/Legal Decisions Update

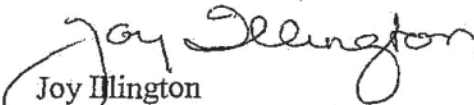
This item was not dealt with.

E. REPORTS:13. Intergovernmental Relations Status Report

The Intergovernmental Relations Status Report was received.

14. Other:

Cabinet received an update on current Softwood Lumber negotiations.

  
Joy Illington  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

## CABINET MINUTES (OPEN)

December 10, 2003  
9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

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)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSigr)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	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 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)
Members Absent:	Honourable Ted Nebbeling	(MoSCC)

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

The Premier and the Minister of Labour provided an update on the ferries situation.

**2. For Decision: Citizens' Assembly**

The Chair of the Citizens' Assembly requested an amendment to the original Order-in-Council establishing the Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform to ensure representation of British Columbians of Aboriginal ancestry. Two additional members for the Assembly will be selected, to increase the total membership of the Assembly to 160.

Cabinet approved the request.

**3. For Decision: Northern Development Initiative**

Cabinet reviewed a submission requesting approval to draft legislation to establish and fund the Northern Development Initiative, pending the finalization of the BC Rail Investment Partnership with CN Rail, anticipated this fiscal year.

The submission calls for legislation to establish a \$135 million Northern Development Initiative (NDI) Trust, that can be used for strategic investments in forestry, pine beetle recovery, transportation, tourism, mining, energy, Olympic opportunities, small business and sustainable economic development. The fund will have three operating accounts as follows:

1. a \$25 million Operating Endowment that will be protected in perpetuity, yielding interest to support the operating needs and priorities of the NDI;
2. a \$50 million Northern Development Account to support cross-regional economic investments, and
3. a \$60 million Regional Development Account, comprised of four \$15 million sub-accounts, to support investments identified by Regional Advisory Councils. The boundaries establishing the regions included in the NDI will be defined to reflect groupings of provincial electoral districts, as follows:
  - Peace Region (Peace River North and Peace River South)
  - Prince George Region (Prince George North; Prince George-Omineca; Prince George-Mount Robson)
  - Northwest Region (North Coast; Skeena; Bulkley Valley-Stikine)
  - Cariboo-Chilcotin-Lillooet Region (Cariboo North; Cariboo South; Yale-Lillooet from its northern tip, south to Lillooet and east to Lytton).

A governing board independent from Government will oversee and approve all aspects of the NDI. The Board will have 13 members (MLAs will not be eligible to serve on the Board). Eight of the Board members will be selected by sitting members of the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) - each of the four regions will elect two Board members from among their RAC members.

The Regional Advisory Councils will be comprised of elected representatives from the local governments and provincial electoral districts that fall within each region. Eligible member will include the Mayors, MLAs and Regional District representatives. Mayors and MLAs will be automatically entitled to serve on their region's RAC for as long as they remain in office. Each Regional District will also be entitled to select one representative from its Board members to serve on the local RAC. They will be entitled to serve for as long as they remain elected to the Regional District and remain its designated representative.

The other five Board members will be appointed by the provincial government from qualified residents of the NDI regions. The Board will self-select its Chair from among its 13 Board Members.

Cabinet authorized approval to draft legislation aimed at establishing and funding the NDI, for introduction in the Legislature pending the finalization of the BC Rail Investment Partnership with CN Rail in fiscal 2003/04.

4. For Decision: BC Rail First Nations Benefits Trust

Cabinet reviewed a submission requesting approval to draft legislation to establish and Fund the BC Rail First Nations Trust, following completion of the BC Rail Investment Partnership with CN Rail, and pursuant to consultation with the affected First Nations.

The \$15 million BC Rail First Nations Benefits Trust will complement the NDI with an additional source of funding that is specifically intended to benefit the 25 First Nations living along the BC Rail corridor. It will be controlled and managed by representatives from those First Nations, in the interests of their communities, to advance their priorities and support economic development, educational advancement and cultural renewal.

A governing Board, independent from Government, will oversee and approve all aspects of the Trust. Initially, on a short-term basis the Province will appoint the members of the governing Board of the Trust - thereafter it will be an "evergreen" board which can renew its own members, except for those representing the Province.

The size and shape of the governing Board will be determined in consultation with the affected First Nations. It is expected that the Boards composition will reflect the following basic principles:

- The size of the Board should be manageable enough to ensure workable decision-making and proper accountability.
- A majority of Board members will be appointed by the participating First Nations, so as to ensure their ongoing control of the Trust and the Board.
- A minority of Board members will be appointed by the Province, from among qualified candidates.
- No single First Nation and/or regional grouping of First Nations represented on the Board should have a disproportionate control over the Board. There should be equity in representation and decision-making.
- If the Province is obliged to appoint the initial Board in the event that the First Nations affected are unable to reach a timely consensus on the structure or membership of the Board, a majority of Board members will be selected from individuals nominated by its participating First Nations.

The Trust will be managed independent of government and the governing structures will have discretion over expenditures of the funds, administration and priorities. The Board will have complete discretion over its own affairs and the authority to determine what compensation, if any, might be paid to its members or employees.

Cabinet authorized approval to draft legislation aimed at establishing and funding the BC Rail First Nations Benefits Trust, pursuant to consultation with the affected First Nations.

5. For Information: Update on BC Resort Strategy

The Minister of State for Deregulation provided an update on the BC Resorts Task Force. He discussed a number of key themes stakeholders identified as important to them, including, certainty (removal of red tape), ongoing emphasis on transportation and infrastructure, clear messages through marketing, and regulations that make sense.

6. For Information: Fiscal Update

The Minister of Finance provided a fiscal update, emphasizing that the Balanced Budget plan is on track, but in order to stay on track, Government will need to keep spending under control. Noting that approximately 60% of the provincial budget goes towards wages in the public sector, the Minister emphasized that the Government will need to continue with the bargaining mandate of 0-0-0.

The Minister of Health Services echoed the emphasis on the bargaining mandate, and gave a brief overview on recent discussions he has had with the BCMA.

7. For Information: SARS Vaccine Update

Dr. Brett Finlay, Director of the SARS Accelerated Vaccine Initiative provided an overview on the SAVI initiative and the successes it has achieved to date.

8. For Decision: BC College of Teachers

Cabinet reviewed a submission requesting approval to draft legislation to amend the *Teaching Profession Act* to provide that the Council be comprised of a majority of elected members, and to require that all members of the Council swear or affirm a prescribed oath of office to formalize their duty to act in the best interests of the College. The Lieutenant Governor in Council would be empowered to establish the oath by regulation and the College Council would be enabled to take action against an elected member who breached the oath.

Cabinet authorized approval to draft legislation to amend the *Teaching Profession Act* to affect the changes described.



Kathryn Dawson  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Cabinet and Committee Support

## CABINET MINUTES

December 10, 2003

Noon - 3:00 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)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSIGR)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	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 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)
Members Absent:	Honourable Ted Nebbeling	(MoSCC)



**A. CABINET MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of Meeting: December 3, 2003  
Approved.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

2. Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - December 1

Cabinet received a report on the Committee's deliberations on Log Export Policy, the Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team Report, the coordination of the Government's Environmental and Land Use Agenda, and a strategy for the management of government activities with DFO.

Cabinet was provided with an update on the Committee's recommendation regarding a review of programs related to the Provincial Invasive Weed Strategy.

**C. ORDERS IN COUNCIL:**

3. Appointments/Regulations

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

- s.14

**D. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

4. Joint GCC: Economy and Government Operations and  
GCC: Natural Resources - December 1  
For Decision: Climate Change

This item was deferred.

5. For Decision: Update on the BC College of Teachers

This item was dealt with at the Open Cabinet meeting.

6. For Decision: Treasury Board Minutes

The Premier reminded Cabinet of the challenges faced by Treasury Board and by the Government.

The Minister of Finance requested all Treasury Board members to avoid requesting leave and to make themselves available for upcoming meetings.

- December 2

Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project (VCCEP) Project Update

Cabinet approved the Treasury Board recommendation which directed the VCCEP to:

- Continue planning work on the assumption of an overall project capital cost of \$535 million, excluding IDC;
- Examine and report back to Treasury Board on potential cost-saving and revenue generation opportunities that could reduce the over cost of the project including IDCs; and
- Present the final project budget for approval in Spring 2004.

Cabinet also approved Treasury Board's recommendation that upon approval of the final project budget, IDC be allocated to the project cost at the summary financial statement level, to fully show the full costs of the project, including IDCs.

Finally, Cabinet approved the recommendation that public reporting between now and when the final budget is approved in the Spring should highlight the fact that projected capital costs do not include IDC. When a detailed project budget is approved in the Spring, an updated public disclosure should be made under the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*.

- December 9

The Sea to Sky Highway Improvement Project

Cabinet approved Treasury Board's recommendation regarding the implementation plan for the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement project, subject to:

- The Ministry of Transportation reporting out to the Chair of Treasury Board at the conclusion of negotiations with selected proponent(s) and prior to contract close; and
- If the updated capital cost estimate excluding IDC exceeds \$600 million (\$2002) upon conclusion of negotiations with selected proponent(s) the Ministry of Transportation is to return to Treasury Board for approval prior to concluding a contract.

7. For Information: Legislative Update

The House Leader reported that Agenda and Priorities had directed that he, the Attorney General and the ADM of Cabinet and Committee Support make final recommendations to Cabinet regarding the Spring 2004 legislative agenda.

He informed Cabinet that of the legislation originally deferred, the pieces recommended for deferral until the 2005 session are:

s.14

The House Leader said that all Deputy Ministers would receive notification from the ADM of Cabinet and Committees outlining their entire approved legislation list and scheduled introduction dates.

8. For Information: s.14

s.14

9. For Information: Aboriginal/Legal Decisions Update

The Attorney General and Minister responsible for Treaty Negotiations provided an update on recent aboriginal legal matters.

E. REPORTS:


10. Intergovernmental Relations Status Report

The Intergovernmental Relations Status Report was received.

11. Deregulation Progress Status Report

This item was not dealt with.

12. Other:



Kathryn Dawson  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Cabinet and Committee Support

## CABINET MINUTES

December 17, 2003  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.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)
	Honourable Gary Collins	(FCR)
	Honourable Kevin Falcon	(MoSD)
	Honourable Greg Halsey-Brandt	(MoSigr)
	Honourable Stan Hagen	(SRM)
	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 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)
Members Absent:	Honourable Mike de Jong	(MOF)
	Honourable Ted Nebbeling	(MoSCC)

**A. CABINET MINUTES:**1. Minutes of Meetings:

- December 10 (Open), 2003

Approved.

- December 10, 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 addition of an OIC s.14  
s.14

**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**3. For Discussion: Labour Issues

This item was not discussed.

4. GCC: Economy and Government Operations - November 24

For Decision: Securities Act

s.14

5. For Decision: Transfer of Fort Steele

Cabinet was notified that The Friends of Fort Steele Society signed an agreement to undertake the management of the historic site for a period of 15 years with 5-year renewable increments. The Society will replace some but not all of the existing staff at Fort Steele. The balance of employees will need to be placed according to the appropriate articles of the Master Agreement with the BCGEU.

Cabinet agreed that for the purposes of Clause 36.2 of the Master Agreement between the government of BC and the BC Government and Service Employee's Union, Cabinet confirms the transfer of service delivery to the Friends of Fort Steele Society.

6. For Decision: Health Professions Act - Proposed Designation of Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologist and Hearing Aid Dealers

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

7. For Information: Legislative Update

This item was not dealt with.

8. For Information: Health Issues Update

The Health Services Minister reported on the court ruling in the lab fees case.

9. For Information: Aboriginal/Legal Decisions Update

s.14

**D. REPORTS:**

10. Intergovernmental Relations Status Report

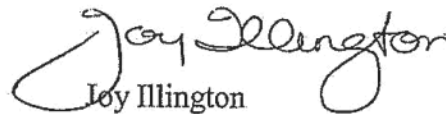
The Intergovernmental Relations Status Report was received.

11. Other:Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment - December 15

The Chair reported on the Committee's support for an action plan to engage the federal government on the impact of decisions made by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on provincial interests. In the short term, the focus will be on key priorities such as Aquaculture site approvals, Kemess North Mine, Fraser River gravel removal and Streamside Protection regulations. In the longer term the focus will be on new ways of shared decision making to achieve mutual interests with improved timeliness, accountability and certainty.

Cabinet endorsed the action plan. The Premier should be given details of the key priorities, including the addition of treaty issues, in anticipation of his next meetings with the federal government. It was also noted that the gravel management issue goes beyond the Fraser River in terms of putting communities at risk of flooding.

[Honourable Judith Reid, Minister of Transportation, withdrew from the meeting without participating in the discussion of the Cabinet Committee on Economy and Environment minutes.]

  
Joy Illington  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary