

Weekly Top Issues Correspondence Report - January 31 to February 6

From: Thomson, Sarah C PREM:EX <Sarah.Thomson@gov.bc.ca>
To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Brewer, Lia PREM:EX <Lia.Brewer@gov.bc.ca>, Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>, Cheema, Haiqa PREM:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>, Farmer, Susan PREM:EX <Susan.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Hrenyk, Alyssa PREM:EX <Alyssa.Hrenyk@gov.bc.ca>, Kouri, Rosa PREM:EX <Rosa.Kouri@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>, Milne, Gala PREM:EX <Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca>, Porter, Jorge PREM:EX <Jorge.Porter@gov.bc.ca>, Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>, Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>, Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jessica C PREM:EX <Jessica.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Sundhu, Sachin PREM:EX <Sachin.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca>, Transition, LP039 PREM:EX <LP039.Transition@gov.bc.ca>, Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX <Kate.VanMeer-Mass@gov.bc.ca>, Vavrik, Anne PREM:EX <Anne.Vavrik@gov.bc.ca>, White, Doug PREM:EX <Doug.White@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 7, 2023 2:50:35 PM PST
Hi Everyone,

Below is this week's Top Issues Correspondence Report. As a brief explanatory note, this a weekly report that we send out while House is in session. We typically send the report on Tuesdays providing info on the topics we have received a high volume of correspondence from the general public about in the past week. If you have any questions or need further information on any of the issues, I am happy to assist!

Top Issues – January 31 – February 6

Topic	Explanatory Note	Total received
Drug Decriminalization	Correspondence from people opposed to this, many expressing that they feel this is not the correct solution to preventing overdoses and addiction and concerned about overall public safety. Most incomings request that legislation be changed or that the amount of legal possession should be reduced.	23
Strata Amendment - Rentals	Correspondence expressing opposition to the legislation and the changes allowing stratas to have rentals and concern about age restrictions being lifted. Most express they understand the need for housing but are concerned about how changes will impact current living situations and creating issues for strata councils. NOTE – we have received a large volume of emails on this issue (800+) since the original announcement.	11
Lisa Helps appointment as Housing Solutions Advisor	Correspondence in response to the announcement on January 26 expressing opposition and concern to the appointment. Many incomings are from the South Island region and who were not in support of various items in her time as Mayor.	37 (since announcement on Jan 26)
Federal Carbon Tax Increase	Correspondence in response the Canadian Taxpayers Federation announcement that the federal Carbon Tax will be increasing. They express opposition to the increase and concern about higher costs of living with an increase to fuel and natural gas.	1666

Thank you,

Sarah Thomson (She/Her)
Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier
P: 250-704-3065 E: sarah.thomson@gov.bc.ca

FW: Carbon Pricing

From: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>
To: RE, D PREM:EX <DRE@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 7, 2023 2:59:51 PM PST
Attachments: image001.png, OBPS Budget 2023 overview for PDE_2Feb2023.docx

Hello, I asked for the summary below after a briefing yesterday because the attached note is complex. MKC is also considering this, and while it's a bit of a "nothing to see here" story, there may well be media interest given the involvement of BLNGC. Let me know if you have any concerns.

From: Jardine, Kevin ENV:EX <Kevin.Jardine@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 1:15 PM
To: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>; Wood, Heather FIN:EX <Heather.Wood@gov.bc.ca>; Baskerville, Shannon EMLI:EX <Shannon.Baskerville@gov.bc.ca>; Mercer, Andrea PREM:EX <Andrea.Mercer@gov.bc.ca>; Rolfe, Chris AG:EX <Chris.Rolfe@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Carbon Pricing

Further to our discussion of yesterday, Shannon, here is a summary of and response to the issues we touched on:

Industrial Carbon Pricing Measures in Budget 2023

- B.C. is changing the way it prices carbon because the federal government has established new, mandatory criteria, requiring B.C. to align its carbon pricing to federal requirements, and providing an opportunity to increase the efficacy of the system overall.

s.12; s.13; s.16

- Minister Heyman's mandate letter includes direction to work with Minister of Finance to 'chart a path that aligns with the federal carbon price, including measures to support...industry in B.C. make the transition to a clean economy...'.

s.12; s.13; s.16

s.12; s.13; s.16

Industrial Carbon Pricing Measures in Budget 2023

- s.12; s.13; s.16

- s.12; s.13; s.16

s.12; s.13; s.16

s.12; s.13; s.16

ENGO Reaction

- Output based pricing systems are widely seen as being an effective way to drive greenhouse gas reductions in industry while protecting competitiveness.s.12; s.13; s.16

s.12; s.13; s.16

- There will be few details on the BC OBPS released on Budget Day and the GGIRCA amendments that are part of the BMIA will be largely enabling. Substantive stakeholder reaction will come after the program parameters (benchmarks, tightening rates, etc.) are announced following the BMIA becoming law. ENGO reaction on the BC OBPS will depend largely on the forthcoming

s.12; s.13; s.16

- The Climate Solutions Council has been supportive of a more robust industrial carbon pricing system that includes competitiveness protection.
- Issues that will require careful communication include:

s.12; s.13; s.16

Timeline:

s.12; s.13; s.16

- Fall 2021: Commitment is made publicly via the *CleanBC Roadmap*
- 2022: Consultation with industry, First Nations and equity seeking groups on carbon pricing

s.12; s.13; s.16

- December 2022: Carbon pricing direction provided to Ministers in mandate letters (includes direction to align with the federal carbon price and support industry)

Confidential Draft

- September 2022-today:
 - o ENV, FIN and AG work on further details to support Ministers' decisions on program stringency
 - o Legislative drafting
 - o Regular updates provided to Minister Heyman
- **Current:**
s.12; s.13; s.16
- Budget Day:
 - o Province announces it is moving to a BC OBPS but few details are provideds.12; s.13; s.16
- After Budget Measures Implementation Act passes:
 - o Decisions required from Ministers to establish program stringency (e.g. sector benchmarks, tightening rates, etc.)
 - o Province announces the details of the BC OBPS (e.g. benchmarks, tightening rate, etc.)
- Spring 2023:
 - o s.12; s.13; s.16
 - o
- TBD:
 - o

Weekly Top Issues Correspondence Report - February 7 to 13

From: Thomson, Sarah C PREM:EX <Sarah.Thomson@gov.bc.ca>
To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Brewer, Lia PREM:EX <Lia.Brewer@gov.bc.ca>, Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>, Chan, Alex PREM:EX <Alex.Chan@gov.bc.ca>, Cheema, Haiqa PREM:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>, Farmer, Susan PREM:EX <Susan.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Hrenyk, Alyssa PREM:EX <Alyssa.Hrenyk@gov.bc.ca>, Kouri, Rosa PREM:EX <Rosa.Kouri@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>, Milne, Gala PREM:EX <Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca>, Porter, Jorge PREM:EX <Jorge.Porter@gov.bc.ca>, Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>, Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>, Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jessica C PREM:EX <Jessica.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Sundhu, Sachin PREM:EX <Sachin.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca>, Transition, LP039 PREM:EX <LP039.Transition@gov.bc.ca>, Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX <Kate.VanMeer-Mass@gov.bc.ca>, Vavrik, Anne PREM:EX <Anne.Vavrik@gov.bc.ca>, White, Doug PREM:EX <Doug.White@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 14, 2023 2:49:24 PM PST

Good afternoon – here's the weekly top issues correspondence report for the past week.

Topic	Explanatory Note	Total received
Digital ID	Correspondence related to the healthcare funding agreement with the federal and provincial governments and commitment to improving how health data is collected, shared and used. Incomings express opposition and concern about their privacy. Public perception appears to be that it means medical records will be shared and tracked, and that it is a stipulation to the funding agreement.	434
Federal Carbon Tax Increase	Correspondence in response the Canadian Taxpayers Federation announcement that the federal Carbon Tax will be increasing. They express opposition to the increase and concern about higher costs of living with an increase to fuel and natural gas	81
Island Railway Corridor	Correspondence regarding restoration of the E&N railway. They request that the government support the restoration and provide various reasons it would be beneficial for island communities. Some incomings request portions of the railway to be restored to provide transportation alternatives for the south island region, particularly those commuting to the capital region.	11
Old Growth	Correspondence requesting government cease all Old Growth logging or put in place further protections. Many incomings relate to Fairy Creek, specifically requesting this area to be protected.	44

Thank you,

Sarah Thomson (She/Her)
Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier

Weekly Top Issues Correspondence Report - February 14 to 20

From: Thomson, Sarah C PREM:EX <Sarah.Thomson@gov.bc.ca>
 To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Brewer, Lia PREM:EX <Lia.Brewer@gov.bc.ca>, Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>, Chan, Alex PREM:EX <Alex.Chan@gov.bc.ca>, Cheema, Haiqa PREM:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>, Farmer, Susan PREM:EX <Susan.Farmer@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Hrenyk, Alyssa PREM:EX <Alyssa.Hrenyk@gov.bc.ca>, Kouri, Rosa PREM:EX <Rosa.Kouri@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>, Milne, Gala PREM:EX <Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca>, Porter, Jorge PREM:EX <Jorge.Porter@gov.bc.ca>, Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>, Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>, Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>, Sanford, Donna L PREM:EX <Donna.Sanford@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jessica C PREM:EX <Jessica.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Sundhu, Sachin PREM:EX <Sachin.Sundhu@gov.bc.ca>, Transition, LP039 PREM:EX <LP039.Transition@gov.bc.ca>, Van Meer-Mass, Kate PREM:EX <Kate.VanMeer-Mass@gov.bc.ca>, Vavrik, Anne PREM:EX <Anne.Vavrik@gov.bc.ca>, White, Doug PREM:EX <Doug.White@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 21, 2023 2:23:20 PM PST

Good afternoon – here's the weekly top issues correspondence report for the past week.

Topic	Explanatory Note	Total received
Digital ID	Correspondence related to the healthcare funding agreement with the federal and provincial governments and commitment to improving how health data is collected, shared and used. Incomings express opposition and concern about their privacy. Public perception appears to be that it means medical records will be shared and tracked, and that it is a stipulation to the funding agreement. *Note – Also receiving form letters related to this topic.	132
Federal Carbon Tax Increase	Correspondence in response the Canadian Taxpayers Federation announcement that the federal Carbon Tax will be increasing. They express opposition to the increase and concern about higher costs of living with an increase to fuel and natural gas	16
Federal Bill C-21, Firearms buyback program	Correspondence in relation to the proposed federal Bill C-21, firearms buyback program. Incomings are in opposition of the proposed amendments.	26
Island Railway Corridor	Correspondence regarding restoration of the E&N railway. They request that the government support the restoration and provide various reasons it would be beneficial for island communities. Some incomings request portions of the railway to be restored to provide transportation alternatives for the south island region, particularly those commuting to the capital region. *Note – Also receiving form letters related to this topic.	25
Old Growth	Correspondence requesting government cease all Old Growth logging or put in place further protections. Many incomings relate to Fairy Creek, specifically requesting this area to be protected. *Note – also active form letter campaigns related to this topic.	20

Thank you,

Sarah Thomson (She/Her)

Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier

P: 250-704-3065 E: sarah.thomson@gov.bc.ca

Carbon tax deck

From: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX <Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca>
To: Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Montgomery, Lauren ENV:EX <Lauren.Montgomery@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 21, 2023 4:35:37 PM PST
Attachments: OBPSstringency_february 10 (002).pptx
Here it is as requested!

Andrew Cuddy (he/him)

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

C: 250-812-2053

Industrial carbon pricing overview

February 2023

Purpose

- Summarize recent and upcoming carbon pricing decisions;
- Update on British Columbia's output-based pricing system (BC OBPS) stringency design; and,

s.12; s.13; s.16

Carbon pricing transition to BC OBPS: What's happening?



British Columbia (BC) is changing the way it prices greenhouse gas emissions from industrial operations to align with Budget 2022, *CleanBC 2030 Roadmap* commitments, and to meet federal carbon pricing requirements.



Currently, large industry pays the carbon tax upfront and is eligible for partial rebates based on their carbon intensity through the CleanBC Program for Industry (CPI).



The new system, called an 'Output-Based Pricing System' (OBPS), will exempt large industry from paying carbon tax upfront and, instead, charge facilities for the carbon they emit above a predetermined limit.



Legislative amendments needed to meet federal requirements and to enable transition to BC OBPS

Carbon Pricing transition to BC OBPS: What's happening?

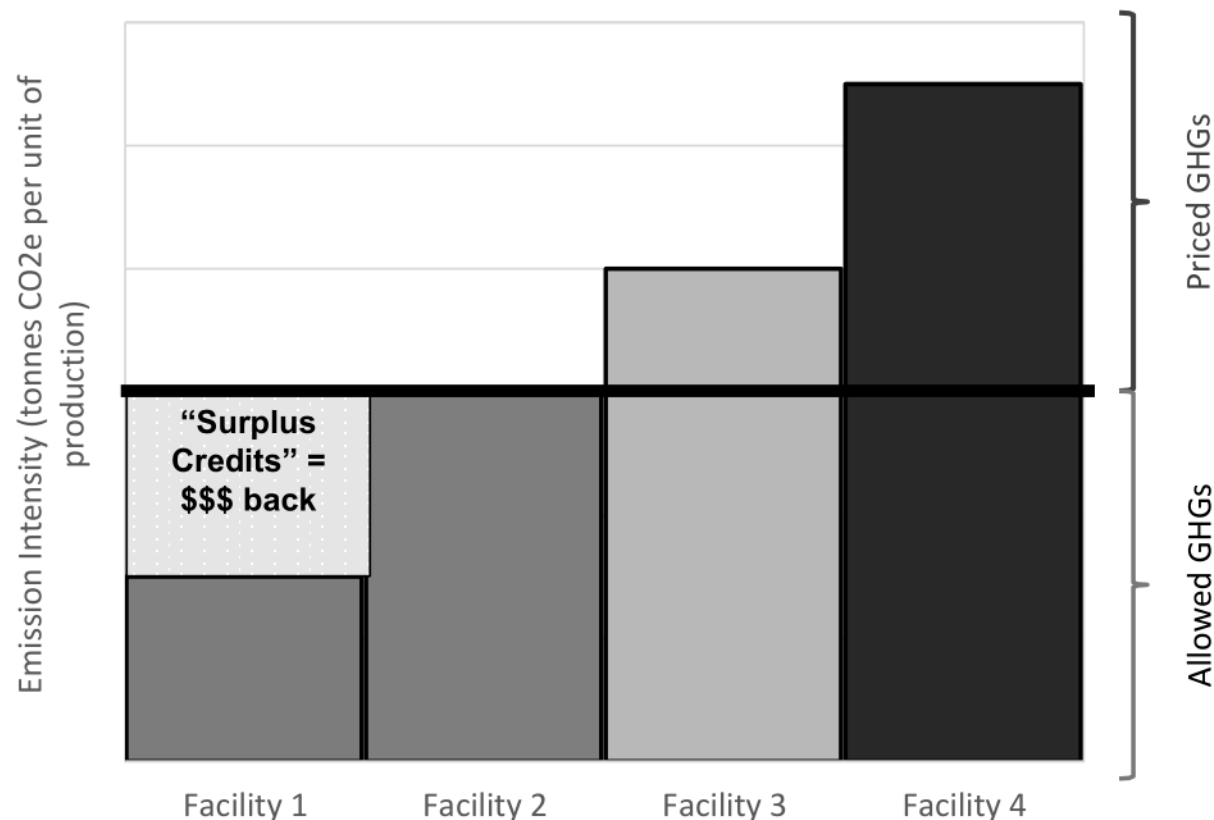
Performance-based rebate model (B.C.'s current industrial carbon pricing approach)



Output-based pricing model (Federally-approved approach B.C. must adopt)



How will the BC OBPS function?



- Ministers of ENV and FIN will set sectoral performance standards.
- Carbon will only be priced above a standard.
- Lower emitting facilities pay less or have surplus.
- Higher emitting facilities pay more.
- More carbon per unit of production = higher costs.

Upcoming stringency decision

BC-OBPS stringency—the strength of the price signal to reduce emissions—must be equivalent to or greater than the federal carbon tax.

Federal stringency requirements include: marginal carbon price level (the price of carbon and value of reducing emissions), scope of priced emissions, allowable emission allocations, rebate programs, and benchmark coverage.

s.12; s.13; s.16

Summary: Carbon pricing decisions

Topic	Status
s.12; s.13; s.16	
Greenhouses	Decision made in November 2022
s.12; s.13; s.16	

- Most decisions needed for the new carbon pricing model made in fall 2022.
- Decisions were made to drive reductions, maintain revenues and protect household affordability
- Ministerial decisions needed:
 - Industrial carbon pricing stringency,

s.12; s.13; s.16

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13 ; s.16

RE: Seeking Review/Approval - FYI - response to letter writing campaign - Stand by your word — no more LNG in B.C.

From: Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>, Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>, Cheema, Haiqa PREM:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>, Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>, Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>, Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 22, 2023 1:02:54 PM PST

Attachments: 20230221_Strat Plan_Draft_sm_th.docx

Fixed wording on one bullet that didn't make sense. And a deletion on page^{s.13}

s.13 The bit I deleted doesn't actually connect to the language that is in the form-letter so I don't think is necessary..

From: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 22, 2023 12:48 PM

To: Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>; Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>; Cheema, Haiqa PREM:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>; Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>; Caul, Doug D PREM:EX <Doug.Caul@gov.bc.ca>; Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Seeking Review/Approval - FYI - response to letter writing campaign - Stand by your word — no more LNG in B.C.

We have a different opinion...holding the letter pending Issues' review

Taking action on the biggest challenges, together

British Columbia is a great place to live, but it's not always easy. People are facing challenges. Global inflation is squeezing household budgets and the probability of an economic downturn around the world can make it feel like an uncertain time. Our province is also experiencing the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our health-care system.

We've faced a lot over the last few years. And those experiences taught us that going it alone doesn't work. We're all in this together, and we've come a long way by working together and helping people. While we can't control global forces, the choices we make as government can help to protect people and build the more secure future for our province that we all want.

Our government is determined to solve problems and build a stronger B.C., for everyone. We can do this by staying focused on people and taking action on the issues that matter most. We are investing today for a stronger tomorrow.

Our top priorities

- *Helping people with costs*
- *Tackling the housing crisis*
- *Helping our health system recover*
- *Making communities safer*
- *Fighting climate change and building a sustainable and secure economy that works for everyone*

Advancing meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous People

Through each of priorities listed above, government is also working to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

The Declaration Act Action Plan, released on March 30, 2022, includes collectively identified goals and outcomes that form the long-term vision for implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in B.C.

The four main goals in the plan are to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration over time include:

- Self-Determination and Inherent Right of Self-Government
- Title and Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Ending Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination
- Social, Cultural and Economic Well-Being

Advancing our top priorities

High global inflation has meant people are facing increasing cost pressures. Government has responded by significantly lowering child care bills for families, reducing and then freezing ICBC rates and delivering rebates for drivers, enhancing the BC Family Benefit and introducing new affordability credits for people.

We know more needs to be done. With Budget 2023, we are continuing to help alleviate cost pressures by introducing new measures that will help everyone and targeted support for those who need it most. This will include free prescription contraceptives and expanding school food programs, as well as increasing support for families with children, middle- to low- to middle-income renters, people on income and disability assistance, post-secondary students, and caregivers for children in care and people with support needs and post-secondary students.

For years, B.C. has been in an affordable housing crisis, rooted in deep, systemic problems. We have ~~made progress~~been taking action by taking on real estate speculators, building record levels of new homes for people and closing loopholes that made B.C.'s housing market vulnerable to money laundering.

Now we're seeing new pressures coming out of the pandemic ~~We still have more to do~~ and we can't afford to turn back now. Budget 2023 builds on the work we've already done by building even more new homes, supporting renters, s. 13, housing for Indigenous peoples both on and off reserve, and more student housing, and clears the way for more housing with zoning changes and a faster permitting process. It also invests in a new housing action plan coming later this spring that will help to deliver more homes for people, faster.

The COVID-19 pandemic put tremendous pressure on our health-care system and health-care workers. Allowing those with money buy their way to the front of the line won't fix the health care for the rest of us. We ~~need~~are ~~strengthening~~ public health care by investing in hospitals, training attracting and keeping doctors, nurses and other health care professionals in BC and in improving cancer care for people.

s. 13

Beginning in January 2023, B.C. became the first province in the country to decriminalize ing small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use. The toxic drug crisis has robbed so many of friends, family and loved ones. Budget 2023 supports in this important step in fighting the stigma that prevents people who use drugs from seeking support and live-saving care, and continues to invest in access to safe prescription alternatives to the toxic drug supply.

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their own community. Our government is helping to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to keep repeat violent criminals off the streets. We are also

s. 13

s. 13

introducing more laws to crack down on gangs, money laundering and the non-consensual distribution of intimate images.

Safer communities also mean access to justice, for everyone. To ensure our legal system is serving and supporting everyone, government is making investments such as opening new Indigenous Justice Centres and boosting the funding of the BC Human Rights Tribunal.

From wildfires to heat waves, British Columbia has faced the very real effects that climate change is having on our planet. While we need to adapt and prepare for more events like this in the future, we also know that we can't lose sight of fighting the root cause of the problem. With *CleanBC*, we have one of the boldest climate action plans in North America. Through *CleanBC* our government continues to invest in clean energy and reduce emissions.

s.13

s.13

People in British Columbia take great pride in our natural landscape. It is incredibly beautiful. It's also a wealth of economic opportunity, when done sustainably and responsibly. The future lies in a rights-based partnership approach to decisions respecting land, water and resource stewardship. Through government's approach to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, we are seeing results that find the balance of environmental restoration and resource development. This includes new agreements with Blueberry First Nations and other Treaty 8 Nations and the first consent-based, decision-making agreement under the Declaration Act with the Tahltan.

B.C.'s latest Labour Market Outlook forecasts more than one million job openings in the next decade, which is both a great opportunity and also a significant challenge for businesses looking for workers. ~~the greatest challenge we hear from businesses right now a great challenge for our provinces.~~ As nearly 80 percent of these jobs will require some amount of post-secondary education or training, Budget 2023 lays out the funding for government's Future Ready plan coming this spring to make training more affordable and accessible to help people secure good paying jobs and that will match people with the right education and training that will help make sure employers will have a skilled work force to fill these job openings.

s.13

Meeting the challenge of the filling one million job openings means getting more people with multiple barriers and underrepresented groups into the workforce. This includes support for Indigenous-led initiatives, like the Indigenous Guardian Watchmen program.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13

One-pagers

From: Kropp, Roxanne GCPE:EX <Roxanne.Kropp@gov.bc.ca>
To: Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: February 28, 2023 10:51:01 AM PST
Attachments: OnePage_CATC-Carbon_Budget2023_UPDATED.docx, OnePage_Taxes & Tax Credits_Budget2023.docx

Carbon and taxes

Roxanne Kropp (she/her)
Communications Manager
Government Communications & Public Engagement
Ministry of Finance
250-889-9742

Carbon Tax

Helping move B.C. to a cleaner, greener future and meeting federal requirements

- Going up by \$15/year starting April 1- meeting federal requirements and an important part of our CleanBC plan
- Vast majority of revenues going directly to enhanced supports for people to offset costs through the Climate Action Tax Credit:
 - If a family of four got \$500 last year – they will get \$900 starting in July.

By 2030, a significant majority of British Columbians will receive more in enhanced Climate Action Tax Credits than they pay in carbon tax (over 70%)

- New carbon-pricing model will continue to reduce emissions while being affordable and keeping businesses competitive.

Revenue neutral?

- All carbon tax revenue goes back to people & business.
- The vast majority of the revenue raised by the carbon tax goes right back to people through the Climate Action Tax Credit.
- By 2030, a significant majority of British Columbians will receive more back from the credit than they pay in carbon tax costs.
- Additional revenue is redirected back into industry to help fund emission-reduction projects that use cleaner technologies and reduce future carbon tax costs.

How much per litre of gas?

- It's about three more cents per litre starting April 1.
- But the vast majority of the revenue raised by the carbon tax goes right back to people through the Climate Action Tax Credit.

2024: New, made-in-BC framework for industry (Details? Accountability for industry?)

- Worked with federal government to meet their requirements. System is competitive for business and reduces emissions. More info coming soon from Minister Heyman.

Tax Credits for People: \$1.5 billion

- **BC Family Benefit:** 10% increase + up to \$500/year for single parents
- **Income-Tested Renter's Tax Credit:** as much as \$400
- **BC Climate Action Tax Credit:** Big boost to offset carbon tax increase

New Tax Measures:

- **Carbon Tax:** Going up \$15 per tonne in April to \$170 by 2030, meeting federal requirements and an important part of our CleanBC plan
- **Police Tax:** Increase at most 3 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value – for a \$500,000 property, that's only \$15 at most. Supports safety in small, rural communities.
- **Interactive Digital Media Credit:** Extended to support creative sector.
- **Heated Tobacco PST:** No one has paid any more or less PST than they should. This clarifies heated tobacco as tobacco, not vape.
- **Online Marketplaces PST:** Absolutely no change to customers – this only affects the way some companies remit taxes. Amazon requested this.
- **Purpose-built Rental Buildings Property Transfer Tax:** Incentivizes people to build and keep buildings with multiple rental units.
- **Nisga'a + Treaty First Nations** can now exempt citizens/members from property taxes on their land. Supports self-determination.

Calls for tax cuts:

- **Employer Health Tax:** Cutting MSP - biggest middle-class tax cut in a generation. More than 85% of businesses don't pay the tax. Not the time to reduce health care investments. Taking action on biggest challenge we hear from businesses – need for people.
- **Income-based property tax** – We have to use a common tax base with federal government – we have progressive income taxes.
- **Flipping tax?** Policy work underway on that right now. Committed to it to prevent speculation & profiteering.
- **Speculation tax?** Looking at how we can use this tool even more to deliver more homes for people.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13

Weekly Top items Correspondence Report - February 28 to March 6

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Sent: March 7, 2023 12:40:52 PM PST

Good afternoon – Here is the weekly top items correspondence report for the past week!

Noting – items appearing here also frequently have form letter campaigns associated with them that are noted in these numbers.

Topic	Explanatory Note	Total received
Budget/ Against Tax Increases/ Against Translink Bail Out - Canadian Taxpayers Federation Announcement	Correspondence in response to the upcoming Budget and the request from Metro Vancouver Mayor and Council to the federal government for funding. Incomings vary on issues, but overall express opposition to what writers refer as a bailout to Translink and tax funds being used towards this. They also note concern about the carbon tax increase and request cuts on fuel tax and to pay down provincial debts with the surplus. All relating to Canadian Taxpayers Federation Announcements.	33
Budget 2023 Announcement	General commentary in response to the Budget 2023 announcement. Items vary, some are positive expressing thanks. Others express disappointment in the increase for PWD and concerns for senior support. Some also mention the surplus and why this isn't being used towards debt.	18
Digital ID	Correspondence related to the healthcare funding agreement with the federal and provincial governments and commitment to improving how health data is collected, shared and used. Incomings express opposition and concern about their privacy. Public perception appears to be that it means medical records will be shared and tracked, and that it is a stipulation to the funding agreement.	33
Old Growth	Correspondence requesting government cease all Old Growth logging or put in place further protections. Majority of the incomings relate to Fairy Creek, specifically requesting this area to be protected through immediate deferrals.	60
Wolf Cull	Correspondence from people urging the government put an end to what they refer to as the 'wolf cull'. Many express opposition to the practice and request protection of wolves. We have received incomings on this in the past as well.	10

Thanks!

Sarah Thomson (she/her)

A/Correspondence Coordinator | Office of the Premier

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