

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport Estimates Debate 2023/24

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December 7, 2022

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Popham:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. I trust in your leadership at this critical time to deliver results for the people of British Columbia.

British Columbians continue to recover from and respond to the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate related natural disasters, while global inflation is driving up costs for more households and the world's economic outlook is concerning. Now more than ever, we need to focus on building a secure, low emission, sustainable economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether you live in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community. We will continue working toward true and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in the inclusive and sustainable province we are building together.

Our government is committed to delivering on the mandate British Columbians gave us in 2020. Together we can make life better for people in B.C., improve the services we all rely on, and ensure a sustainable province for future generations.

As we renew our work, my priority as Premier is to deliver results that people can see and feel in four key areas:

- **Attainable and affordable housing:** In the wake of soaring prices and record migration to B.C., we will take on the important work of building new homes that are actually attainable for the middle class, while continuing our work to address the housing crisis for those in distress on our streets.

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- **Safer communities:** To address concerns about public safety, both for the people struggling with mental health and addiction on our streets, as well as the feeling that downtown centres are not as safe as they were before the pandemic, we will work with our partners at all levels of government, the justice and health care systems, the non-profit sector, and community leaders to find solutions for this complex challenge facing our province, and work overtime to seize the assets of high-level criminals.
- **Improved health care:** Amid unprecedented pressures we will continue to work to strengthen our public health care system, from family doctors to new hospitals, so care is there for each of us when we need it.
- **A sustainable, clean, secure, and fair economy:** We will continue our work investing in British Columbians, fighting racism and promoting equity, and building a clean economy that addresses our obligations to combat climate change by driving down emissions, while creating good, family supporting jobs.

Our tourism industry was hit hard by the pandemic and continues to need support to recover and thrive. People are travelling again and when they have a choice of where to go, they are choosing our province as a destination.

British Columbia will be hosting major sporting events every year from 2024 to 2026, inclusive. By using these marquee events to promote our province and the remarkable tourism opportunities available, we will help leverage our investments in Indigenous tourism, conservation, and community amenities into sustained economic growth across B.C.

Beyond tourism, arts and culture play a vital role in our province's economy. From our thriving film, special effects, gaming, and animation sectors to theatre, music, comedy, and dance, British Columbians are having an outsized impact, delivering major success on the world stage.

The remarkable diversity that makes up our province, from Indigenous art and culture to art that thrives in cultural communities, has led to an innovative and unique cultural sector that has remarkable potential for further growth and development.

Since 2020, our government has made considerable progress on important initiatives including:

- Supporting the tourism, arts, culture, and sport sectors through the COVID-19 response and recovery.

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- Evaluating the benefits of potential marquee sporting events, resulting in commitments to host the 2025 Invictus Games and the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- Doubling support for arts and culture spaces with \$4 million in support to the Arts Infrastructure Program.
- Supporting the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver with a \$25 million contribution for new child care and housing for families.
- Announcing the single largest funding program to support B.C.'s unique heritage infrastructure with \$16 million to be delivered in partnership with Heritage BC and \$4 Million delivered with the First Peoples' Cultural Council.
- Establishing Canada's first Chinese Canadian Museum in B.C.

As you continue to make progress on items in the previous mandate letter, over the remaining period of this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- Continue to work with the tourism and hospitality sectors in rural and urban communities to ensure sustained recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Continue to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.
- Maintain work with B.C. host cities and organizers of upcoming marquee events – Grey Cup in 2024, Invictus Games in 2025 and FIFA world cup in 2026 – to ensure they provide positive benefits for businesses, communities, and the tourism sector.
- Work with First Nations to secure the bid for the 2027 North America Indigenous Games.
- Continue to promote rural and Indigenous tourism opportunities, taking advantage of B.C.'s unparalleled natural areas.
- Continue the development and implementation of heritage policy and programs related to geographical naming, heritage conservation capacity building, historic places recognition, fossil management, and the stewardship of physical heritage resources.

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- Work with the Royal BC Museum to engage in a robust consultation with First Nations, British Columbians, and other stakeholders to inform next steps in the Museum's future.
- With support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.

To assist you in meeting the commitments we have made to British Columbians, you are assigned a Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film and a Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism. You will work closely together and ensure your Parliamentary Secretaries receive appropriate support to deliver on the priorities outlined in the mandate letters issued to them.

Our work together must continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of people in this province. Issues not contemplated by this letter will come forward for government action and I ask you to bring such matters forward for consideration by the Planning and Priorities Committee of Cabinet, with the expectation that any proposed initiatives will be subject to the usual Cabinet and Treasury Board oversight and include measurable outcomes for British Columbians. Your ministry's priorities must reflect our government's overall strategic plan as determined by Cabinet.

British Columbians expect their elected representatives to work together to advance the public good. That means seeking out, fostering, and championing good ideas regardless of their origin. I expect you to reach out to elected members from all parties as you deliver on your mandate. Further, you will build thoughtful and sustained relationships both with title holders and through public and stakeholder engagement plans that incorporate diverse perspectives early in the policy development process. Federal partnerships and resources will be particularly important and, on behalf of our government, you will engage with the federal government on advancing priorities to improve the lives of British Columbians.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister, and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

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The rural and urban challenges that we face are urgent and complex. In response, we must be forward-thinking, strategic, and ready to work across disciplines and old divisions in new ways. Labour shortages are a major issue globally, and British Columbia is no exception, including in the public service. Maintaining the BC Public Service as an employer of excellence will be key to retaining and recruiting the diverse professionals we rely on to deliver essential services, advice, and analysis.

At the core of this work is listening and responding to the priorities of people in B.C. Together, we can deliver results in very real ways – ways that people can see, feel, and touch, and that change their lives for the better. Thank you for doing this important work with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David Eby, KC
Premier



December 7, 2022

Bob D'Eith, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith:

Thank you for agreeing to continue to serve as Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film. I trust in your leadership at this critical time to deliver results for the people of British Columbia.

British Columbians continue to recover from and respond to the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate related natural disasters, while global inflation is driving up costs for more households and the world's economic outlook is concerning. Now more than ever, we need to focus on building a secure, low emission, sustainable economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether you live in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community. We will continue working toward true and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in the inclusive and sustainable province we are building together.

Our government is committed to delivering on the mandate British Columbians gave us in 2020. Together we can make life better for people in B.C., improve the services we all rely on, and ensure a sustainable province for future generations.

As we renew our work, my priority as Premier is to deliver results that people can see and feel in four key areas:

- **Attainable and affordable housing:** In the wake of soaring prices and record migration to B.C., we will take on the important work of building new homes that are actually attainable for the middle class, while continuing our work to address the housing crisis for those in distress on our streets.

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- **Safer communities:** To address concerns about public safety, both for the people struggling with mental health and addiction on our streets, as well as the feeling that downtown centres are not as safe as they were before the pandemic, we will work with our partners at all levels of government, the justice and health care systems, the non-profit sector, and community leaders to find solutions for this complex challenge facing our province, and work overtime to seize the assets of high-level criminals.
- **Improved health care:** Amid unprecedented pressures we will continue to work to strengthen our public health care system, from family doctors to new hospitals, so care is there for each of us when we need it.
- **A sustainable, clean, secure, and fair economy:** We will continue our work investing in British Columbians, fighting racism and promoting equity, and building a clean economy that addresses our obligations to combat climate change by driving down emissions, while creating good, family supporting jobs.

As Parliamentary Secretary, you will assist the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport in carrying out ministerial duties in the House and speaking on the government's behalf when issues arise in the absence of the Minister. You will also play an important role in engaging British Columbians by representing the Minister at public events, delivering speeches on behalf of the Minister, or acting as a spokesperson for the government's position. You will reach out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society, and people across B.C. to better understand their perspectives and bring their views to the Minister.

You will work with your Minister to help advance these shared responsibilities:

- Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to support growth in urban and rural communities across British Columbia.
- Work with the film industry to ensure British Columbia continues to be a destination for the sector.
- Lead work with the federal government to ensure that any federal government programs pertaining to content production and distribution online continue to benefit artists in British Columbia, including digital-first artists.

Your Minister is responsible and accountable for their ministry and their mandate; all key decisions will be made by them. You will understand your Minister's policy goals, develop a deep understanding of the issues, build thoughtful and sustained relationships both with title holders and through public and stakeholder engagement plans, and provide your best advice to the public service as they develop options for decision by the Minister.

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You will collaborate with your Minister, ministry, and the Premier's Office to develop a workplan to guide your efforts, including detail on how the professional public service will support your work.

All members are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a Parliamentary Secretary, your conduct will reflect not only on you, but on your Minister and our government.

You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Minister, your Minister's staff, and the public servants who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities.

The rural and urban challenges that we face are urgent and complex. In response, we must be forward-thinking, strategic, and ready to work across disciplines and old divisions in new ways. Labour shortages are a major issue globally, and British Columbia is no exception, including in the public service. Maintaining the BC Public Service as an employer of excellence will be key to retaining and recruiting the diverse professionals we rely on to deliver essential services, advice, and analysis.

At the core of this work is listening and responding to the priorities of people in B.C. Together, we can deliver results in very real ways – ways that people can see, feel, and touch, and that change their lives for the better. Thank you for doing this important work with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC
Premier



December 7, 2022

Brittny Anderson, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Parliamentary Secretary Anderson:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism. I trust in your leadership at this critical time to deliver results for the people of British Columbia.

British Columbians continue to recover from and respond to the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate related natural disasters, while global inflation is driving up costs for more households and the world's economic outlook is concerning. Now more than ever, we need to focus on building a secure, low emission, sustainable economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether you live in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community. We will continue working toward true and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in the inclusive and sustainable province we are building together.

Our government is committed to delivering on the mandate British Columbians gave us in 2020. Together we can make life better for people in B.C., improve the services we all rely on, and ensure a sustainable province for future generations.

As we renew our work, my priority as Premier is to deliver results that people can see and feel in four key areas:

- **Attainable and affordable housing:** In the wake of soaring prices and record migration to B.C., we will take on the important work of building new homes that are actually attainable for the middle class, while continuing our work to address the housing crisis for those in distress on our streets.

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- **Safer communities:** To address concerns about public safety, both for the people struggling with mental health and addiction on our streets, as well as the feeling that downtown centres are not as safe as they were before the pandemic, we will work with our partners at all levels of government, the justice and health care systems, the non-profit sector, and community leaders to find solutions for this complex challenge facing our province, and work overtime to seize the assets of high-level criminals.
- **Improved health care:** Amid unprecedented pressures we will continue to work to strengthen our public health care system, from family doctors to new hospitals, so care is there for each of us when we need it.
- **A sustainable, clean, secure, and fair economy:** We will continue our work investing in British Columbians, fighting racism and promoting equity, and building a clean economy that addresses our obligations to combat climate change by driving down emissions, while creating good, family supporting jobs.

As Parliamentary Secretary, you will assist the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport in carrying out ministerial duties in the House and speaking on the government's behalf when issues arise in the absence of the Minister. You will also play an important role in engaging British Columbians by representing the Minister at public events, delivering speeches on behalf of the Minister, or acting as a spokesperson for the government's position. You will reach out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society, and people across B.C. to better understand their perspectives and bring their views to the Minister.

You will work with your Minister to help advance these shared responsibilities:

- Work with the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport and community stakeholders to support the development of rural tourism opportunities.
- With support from the Ministers of Agriculture and Food and Public Safety and Solicitor General, lead work to expand agri-tourism in consultation with food producers, wineries, breweries, distilleries, and farm-to-gate cannabis producers.
- Lead work with the hospitality industry to ensure B.C. is ready to welcome tourists during upcoming marquee sporting events.
- Work across government to identify opportunities to promote British Columbia's conservation initiatives through eco-tourism.

Your Minister is responsible and accountable for their ministry and their mandate; all key decisions will be made by them. You will understand your Minister's policy goals, develop

a deep understanding of the issues, build thoughtful and sustained relationships both with title holders and through public and stakeholder engagement plans, and provide your best advice to the public service as they develop options for decision by the Minister.

You will collaborate with your Minister, ministry, and the Premier's Office to develop a workplan to guide your efforts, including detail on how the professional public service will support your work.

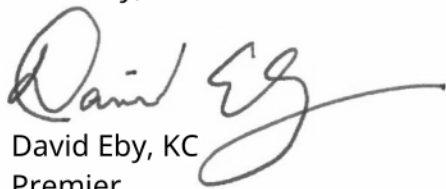
All members are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a Parliamentary Secretary, your conduct will reflect not only on you, but on your Minister and our government.

You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Minister, your Minister's staff, and the public servants who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities.

The rural and urban challenges that we face are urgent and complex. In response, we must be forward-thinking, strategic, and ready to work across disciplines and old divisions in new ways. Labour shortages are a major issue globally, and British Columbia is no exception, including in the public service. Maintaining the BC Public Service as an employer of excellence will be key to retaining and recruiting the diverse professionals we rely on to deliver essential services, advice, and analysis.

At the core of this work is listening and responding to the priorities of people in B.C. Together, we can deliver results in very real ways – ways that people can see, feel, and touch, and that change their lives for the better. Thank you for doing this important work with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Eby', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC
Premier



February 25, 2022

Honourable Melanie Mark
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Mark:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.

In this past year, as a member of Cabinet, your work has contributed to this government's efforts to support British Columbians as they face the impacts of COVID-19. People throughout the province continue to work together to stay safe and rebuild their lives and communities from the effects of the pandemic. Our government remains committed to getting through the pandemic and its after effects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care for people and families, delivering affordability and security in our communities, and investing in good jobs and livelihoods in a clean-energy future.

I expect you –with support of your ministry – to focus on the commitments detailed in our platform, *Working for You*, along with the following foundational principles:

- **Putting people first:** Since 2017, our government has focused on making decisions to meet people's needs. That focus drove our work in our first term and will continue to be our priority. British Columbians are counting on the government to keep them safe and to build an economic recovery that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Keeping people at the centre of everything we do means protecting and enhancing the public services people rely on and working to make life more affordable for everyone.

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- **Lasting and meaningful reconciliation:** Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all. The unanimous passage of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* was a significant step forward in this journey. True reconciliation will take time and ongoing commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination. Our government – and every ministry – must remain focused on creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our economy and providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work toward lasting reconciliation.
- **Equity and anti-racism:** Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government, and their lives. Our government has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every ministry has a role in this work. While our caucus elected a record number of women, more work remains to address gender equity. Delivering on our commitments to address racial discrimination will require a commitment by all of government to ensure increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black and People of Colour) representation within the public service, including in government appointments. Our efforts to address systemic discrimination must also inform policy and budget decisions by reviewing all decisions through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens.
- **A better future through fighting climate change:** In 2018, our government launched our CleanBC climate action plan. CleanBC puts British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future by building a low-carbon economy with new clean-energy jobs and opportunities, protecting our air, land and water and supporting communities to prepare for climate impacts. It is every Minister's responsibility to ensure your ministry's work continues to achieve CleanBC's goals.
- **A strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone:** We will continue our work to support British Columbians through the pandemic and the economic recovery by investing in health care, getting people back to work, helping businesses and communities, and building the clean, innovative economy of the future. Our plan will train the workforce of tomorrow, help businesses hire and grow and invest in the infrastructure needed to build our province.

The pandemic has reminded us that we're strongest when we work together. Delivering on our commitments to people will require a coordinated effort with your cabinet and caucus colleagues, supported by the skilled professionals in the public service. You will also support your cabinet colleagues to do their work, particularly where commitments cross ministry lines.

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British Columbians expect their elected representatives to work together to advance the broader public good despite their partisan perspectives. That means seeking out, fostering, and championing good ideas, regardless of their origin. I expect you to reach out to elected members from all parties as you deliver on your mandate. Further, you will build thoughtful and sustained relationships through public and stakeholder engagement plans that connect with people to incorporate their perspectives early in the policy development process. These plans must include measurable outcomes and ensure active dialogue and ongoing outreach in your ministry's actions and priorities.

Over the course of our mandate, I expect you will make progress on the following items:

- Support the tourism, arts, culture and sport sectors through the COVID-19 response and recovery, setting them up for success in the years ahead.
- Work with the Tourism Task Force to bring together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits to support the tourism industry as it moves toward recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, including by delivering the critical supports for the industry that are part of our government's economic recovery plan, StrongerBC.
- Continue to collaborate with sport organizations on building a resilient recovery from COVID-19.
- Support the creation of dedicated arts and culture spaces by using capital funding through our new Recovery Investment Fund to expand our government's Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.
- Continue the redevelopment of the Royal BC Museum.
- Work with the Minister of State for Trade to continue the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.
- Start work to create a first-of-its-kind museum to document the history, art and contributions of South Asian people in BC.
- With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and the Minister of State for Child Care, provide provincial funding to support the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, delivering a new state-of-the-art community centre along with hundreds of new child care spaces.

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November 26, 2020

Bob D'Eith, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film, supporting the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. You are taking on this responsibility at a time when people in our province face significant challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has turned the lives of British Columbians upside down. None of us expected to face the challenges of the past number of months, yet British Columbians have demonstrated incredible resilience, time and time again. We will get through the pandemic and its aftereffects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care for people and families, delivering affordability and security in our communities, and investing in good jobs and livelihoods in a clean-energy future.

I expect you – and the work of your ministry – to focus on the commitments detailed in our platform, *Working for You*, along with the following foundational principles:

- **Putting people first:** Since 2017, our government has focused on making decisions to meet people's needs. That focus drove our work in our first term and will continue to be our priority. British Columbians are counting on the government to keep them safe and to build an economic recovery that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Keeping people at the centre of everything we do means protecting and enhancing the public services people rely on and working to make life more affordable for everyone.
- **Lasting and meaningful reconciliation:** Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all. The unanimous passage of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* was a significant step forward in this journey. True

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reconciliation will take time and ongoing commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination. Our government – and every ministry – must remain focused on creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our economy and providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work toward lasting reconciliation.

- **Equity and anti-racism:** Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. Our government has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every ministry has a role in this work. While our caucus elected a record number of women, more work remains to address gender equity. Delivering on our commitments to address racial discrimination will require a commitment by all of government to ensure increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black and People of Colour) representation within the public service, including in government appointments. Our efforts to address systemic discrimination must also inform policy and budget decisions by reviewing all decisions through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens.
- **A better future through fighting climate change:** In 2018, our government launched our CleanBC climate action plan. CleanBC puts British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future by building a low-carbon economy with new clean-energy jobs and opportunities, protecting our air, land and water and supporting communities to prepare for climate impacts. It is every Minister's responsibility to ensure your ministry's work continues to achieve CleanBC's goals.
- **A strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone:** We will continue our work to support British Columbians through the pandemic and the economic recovery by investing in health care, getting people back to work, helping businesses and communities, and building the clean, innovative economy of the future. Our plan will train the workforce of tomorrow, help businesses hire and grow and invest in the infrastructure needed to build our province.

As Parliamentary Secretary, you will assist your Minister in carrying out their duties. You may be asked to represent the Minister at public events, deliver speeches on behalf of the Minister, or act as a spokesperson for the government's position. You will reach out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society and individuals across B.C. to better understand their perspectives and bring their views to the Minister.

You are also being given special responsibility to support your Minister in specific areas within their mandate. You will work with, and be supported by, B.C.'s professional public service in this role.

Over the course of our mandate, I expect you will make progress on the following items:

- Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to drive a strong recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Support the Minister of Finance to re-establish the government-film sector task force to recommend the size and term of a new visual effects tax credit based on production costs.

Your Minister is ultimately responsible and accountable for their ministry and their mandate; thus, all key decisions will be made by them. Your role is to understand your Minister's policy goals, develop a deep understanding of the issues, participate in consultations with key stakeholders, Indigenous peoples and the broader public, in order to give your best advice to the public service as it develops options for a decision by the Minister.

You will collaborate with your Minister, Ministry and the Premier's Office to develop a workplan to guide your efforts, including detail on how the professional public service will support your work through briefings, supporting consultations, and keeping you apprised of policy development.

All members are expected to review, understand and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a Parliamentary Secretary, your conduct will reflect not only on you, but on your Minister and our government.

You are accountable for providing strong, professional and ethical leadership. I expect you to establish a positive, respectful and collaborative working relationship with your Minister, their staff and the public servants who provide the professional, non-partisan advice fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities.

My commitment to all British Columbians is to do my level best to make sure people's lives are better, safer and more affordable. I believe the challenges we face can and will be overcome by working together. By way of this letter, I am expressing my faith that people can expect the same commitment from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Horgan
Premier

- Continue the development and implementation of tangible and intangible heritage policy and programs related to geographical naming, heritage capacity building, historic places recognition, fossil management and the stewardship of physical heritage resources.
- Work with the Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship to ensure the tourism, cultural, recreational, and economic benefits from heritage and historic places, mountain resorts, and adventure tourism are integrated into modernized land use policy and planning.

To assist you in meeting the commitments we have made to British Columbians, you are assigned a Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film. You will work closely together and ensure your Parliamentary Secretary receives appropriate support to deliver on the following priorities, outlined in the mandate letter issued to them:

- Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to drive a strong recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support the Minister of Finance to re-establish the government-film sector task force to recommend the size and term of a new visual effects tax credit based on production costs.

Our work as a government must continually evolve to meet the changing needs of people in this province. Issues not contemplated in this letter will come forward for government action and I ask you to bring such matters forward for consideration by the Planning and Priorities Committee of cabinet, with the expectation that any proposed initiatives will be subject to the usual cabinet and Treasury Board oversight. Your ministry's priorities must reflect our government's overall strategic plan as determined by cabinet.

All cabinet members are expected to review, understand and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a minister of the Crown, your conduct will reflect not only on you, but on cabinet and our government.

You are responsible for providing strong, professional, and ethical leadership within cabinet and your ministry. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your deputy minister and the public servants under their direction who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. You must ensure your minister's office meets the highest standards for integrity and provides a respectful and rewarding environment for all staff.

.../5

My commitment to all British Columbians is to do my level best to make sure people's lives are better, safer, and more affordable. I believe the challenges we face can and will be overcome by working together. By way of this letter, I am expressing my faith that people can expect the same commitment from you.

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John Horgan
Premier

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

MANDATE LETTER COMMITTEMENTS ISSUED DECEMBER 2022

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
<p>1. Continue to work with the tourism and hospitality sectors in rural and urban communities to ensure sustained recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Tourism, ADM Nick Grant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2022, the Ministry launched a new three-year strategic plan. • The <i>Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency</i> is based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force and the Tourism Sector Recovery Roundtable. • The Ministry committed more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More than \$250 million to support tourism business recovery. ○ \$53 million in community-based tourism infrastructure for recovery, to create jobs and spur economic development. ○ More than \$11 million for Indigenous Tourism BC, one of the fastest growing sectors of the industry. ○ \$36.8 million to over 80 major anchor attractions and tour bus operators. ○ Nearly \$30 million to support 680 fairs, festivals and events in 134 communities throughout B.C., with an additional \$30 million announced to supports the events sector. ○ Up to \$15 million for fixed costs to help large accommodation providers, and tenure and park permit holders. ○ Budget 2022 provided an additional \$25 million for the tourism sector to help support a full recovery. • Further relief funding is being provided with a commitment of \$30 million towards destination development efforts across the province. • The Ministry recently announced (Feb 2023) the \$30 million in one-time grants program for B.C. Fairs, Festivals and Events (BCFFE) fund providing support to eligible events in response to challenges

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
		the sector is facing. These funds build on the success of the BCFE program launched in 2021.
2. Continue to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	Arts Infrastructure Program will invest \$4 million in FY 2022/23 to support the planning, renovation, acquisition and construction of cultural spaces in B.C. as well as the purchase of specialized equipment. This will provide approximately 80 grants between \$25,000 and \$250,000. Funding announcements are planned for March 2023.
3. Maintain work with B.C. host cities and organizers of upcoming marquee events – Grey Cup in 2024, Invictus Games in 2025 and FIFA world cup in 2026 – to ensure they provide positive benefits for businesses, communities, and the tourism sector.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Province is working closely with primary event organizers to ensure that investments bring benefits to businesses and the tourism sector, and generate long term legacies for communities across the province. • Marquee sport events create opportunities to profile B.C. globally as a prime destination while stimulating economic growth and promoting local tourism visitation. • B.C.'s investment in events of this scale is a major step in continuing to build a vibrant and resilient visitor economy. <p>FIFA 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are continuing to work with all of our partners, including the federal government on updating plans and estimates of revenues and costs for planning, staging and safely hosting FIFA 2026 matches in Vancouver and at BC Place Stadium. • With the ending of the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, FIFA is now turning its attention to the North American cities who will host the FIFA World Cup matches in 2026.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Vancouver has now estimated that its net incremental costs of planning, staging and hosting FIFA 2026 matches will be \$230 million. At the City's request, in January 2023 the government introduced a 2.5% Additional Major Events MRDT, applied on purchases of accommodation in the City over seven years, to help pay for the City's expected net costs. <p>INVICTUS 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Invictus Games recently hosted events in Vancouver and Whistler to celebrate the 2-year countdown to the event in 2025. The Minister attended the event in Vancouver along with key business, tourism and community leaders. The Province is working closely with the organizing committee on plans for the official handover of the Invictus Games to British Columbia that will take place in September at the 2023 Invictus Games in Dusseldorf, Germany. <p>Grey Cup 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province is working with the Grey Cup 2024 organizing committee and Executive Director to confirm funding and determine plans for the game and festival. Community partners share our excitement about hosting these high-profile sport events.
4. Work with First Nations to secure the bid for the 2027 North America Indigenous Games.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province is working closely with the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops) Nation to support their bid to bring the North America Indigenous Games to British Columbia in 2027. Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
		<p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Province is working with the Nation and the bid committee on plans for the site visit April 20-23 and the final bid presentation on May 17. • An announcement of the successful host community is expected in July 2023. • We remain committed to the important work of putting reconciliation into action and continuing to build strong relationships with Indigenous partners.
<p>5. Continue to promote rural and Indigenous tourism opportunities, taking advantage of B.C.'s unparalleled natural areas.</p>	<p>Tourism, ADM Nick Grant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with Destination BC, Indigenous Tourism BC, B.C. Regional and Community DMOs, and sector associations to promote rural and Indigenous tourism opportunities across the province supported by the <i>Super, Natural British Columbia</i>® brand and destination development initiatives. • Destination BC's <i>Invest in Iconics Strategy</i> focusses on branding, marketing, and supporting the development of globally compelling places and routes that span the entire province of British Columbia. • Recent Ministry initiatives delivered through Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) include \$3.7 million in capacity building funding, \$8 million in recovery funding for Indigenous tourism businesses <p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These funding supports have also helped Indigenous communities to exercise their rights and create their own paths forward in Indigenous tourism.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ministry recently signing a refreshed accord with ITBC to make a firm commitment to Indigenous tourism, the sharing of cultures, and reconciliation. ○ We remain committed to working alongside our Indigenous partners and communities to support Indigenous tourism throughout the province. ● Maintain competitive edge in resort development in rural areas through mountain resorts branch tenuring and support to ski areas and operation of provincial heritage sites.
<p>6. Continue the development and implementation of heritage policy and programs related to geographical naming, heritage conservation capacity building, historic places recognition, fossil management, and the stewardship of physical heritage resources.</p>	<p>Tourism, ADM Nick Grant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transfer of programs to TACS complete (effective April 1, 2022) including Heritage Branch whose mandate is to manage a portfolio of provincial heritage properties, provide advice on B.C.'s heritage places (Provincial Registrar and Collections office), fossils and geonames, provide provincial leadership by establishing policy and best practices related to heritage stewardship. ● Progress on the mandate commitment will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reporting on projects funded as part of the \$30 million BC 150 Time Immemorial program and \$20 million Unique Heritage Infrastructure stream of the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program. ○ Completing cost and operational review of staffed provincial heritage sites (pursue funding request). ○ Implementation of the fossil management policy. ○ Implementation of the collections management policy. ○ Focus on removing derogatory geographical names, and alignment with the Geographical Names Board of Canada's strategic plan. ○ Working with communities (Indigenous and non) on sites of heritage significance, geographical naming and fossil areas. ○ Ongoing <i>Heritage Conservation Act</i> and <i>Land Act</i> permitting.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Lana Popham - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with Arch branch on the modernization of the <i>Heritage Conservation Act</i> (Arch Branch, Min of Forests is lead). Repatriation of Indigenous artefacts occurring heritage sites. Feb 2023 Introduction of amendment to the <i>Provincial Symbols and Honours Act</i> for an official fossil.
7. Work with the Royal BC Museum to engage in a robust consultation with First Nations, British Columbians, and other stakeholders to inform next steps in the Museum's future.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	The Royal BC Museum launched a robust, multi-phased 3 year consultation process in January 2023 which will inform the next steps in the Museum's future. At this time, the engagement process includes in person and online sessions across the province along with an online survey.
8. With support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian Museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	<p>The Chinese Canadian Museum will open in its permanent location in Vancouver Chinatown in July 2023.</p> <p>Staff are currently looking at options to advance the commitments to Cultural Infrastructure initiatives and support work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives and community consultations for both a South Asian Museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.</p>

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
1. Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to support growth in urban	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing roll-out of Amplify BC funding to support live music artists, companies and presenters.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
and rural communities across British Columbia.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2023, Minister Popham and PS D'Eith met with several creative sector stakeholders to hear about their priorities and challenges. • Planning is underway for meetings with the Provincial Film Commission and Regional Film Commissioners to explore opportunities in the regions. • TACS staff are developing options for engaging with the creative sector representatives to develop understanding of emerging issues and priorities.
2. Work with the film industry to ensure British Columbia continues to be a destination for the sector.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2023, Minister Popham and PS D'Eith met with the Motion Picture Production Industry Association to hear about their priorities and challenges. • In February 2023, Minister Popham attended the Victoria Film Festival, meeting with key industry representatives and filmmakers in B.C. • In March 2023, PS D'Eith to attend and speak at the graduation of the Motion Picture Production Assistant Micro-Credential at Martini Studios, supporting people to enter the motion picture industry. • Advice/Recommendations • TACS is working closely with other Ministries and Crowns to ensure implementation of the Provincial Film Location Policy across government and related agencies.
3. Lead work with the federal government to ensure that any federal government programs pertaining to content production and distribution online continue to benefit artists in British	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis is underway of the 2022/23 Canada Media Fund and Telefilm funding allocations to determine B.C.'s share in relation to production volume across the country. • Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
Columbia, including digital-first artists.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TACS will prepare to participate in the CRTC consultations once Bill C-11 is passed.

Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Brittny Anderson - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
1. Work with the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport and community stakeholders to support the development of rural tourism opportunities.	Tourism, ADM Nick Grant	<p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to facilitate fossil tourism through partnerships with First nations at significant fossil sites. Maintain and grow visitation at the Province's resorts and ski areas and provincial historic sites.
2. With support from the Ministers of Agriculture and Food and Public Safety and Solicitor General, lead work to expand agri-tourism in consultation with food producers, wineries, breweries, distilleries, and farm-to-gate cannabis producers.	Tourism, ADM Nick Grant	<p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kootenay Rockies Tourism completed study, <i>Exploring Opportunities for Cannabis Tourism in the Kootenay Rockies</i> (2022).

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Brittney Anderson - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st farm-gate cannabis facility in B.C. recently opened in Williams Lake (agreement between Province and Williams Lake FN). • Continued work with Destination BC and tourism and hospitality partners along with community and regional tourism organizations to identify opportunities and advance promotion of expanded agri-tourism in consultation with industry producers. Examples: Co-op Marketing programs are the B.C. Ale Trail, the Farmers' Market Trail etc.
<p>3. Lead work with the hospitality industry to ensure B.C. is ready to welcome tourists during upcoming marquee sporting events.</p>	<p>Tourism, ADM Nick Grant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our government (through Ministry of Finance) introduced changes to the Provincial Sales Tax Act in early 2023 so communities can apply for an additional Major Events Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) of up to 2.5% on short-term accommodation sales. • The City of Vancouver, Destination Vancouver, the Province, and the local accommodation sector have agreed to a Major Events MRDT rate of 2.5% over seven years, to help pay for the cost of planning, staging and hosting FIFA 2026 matches. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As a result, overnight visitors to Vancouver will see an additional \$2.50 on each \$100 paid on short-term accommodations beginning February 1. ○ The temporary tax could generate approximately \$230 million in revenue over seven years. • The Major Events MRDT is a tool that B.C. municipalities can use to provide time-limited support for events and other priorities. It is meant to be used to fund events that help bolster tourism. • The Ministry is supporting the promotion and delivery of marquee sporting events including the 2023 Laver Cup, 2024 Grey Cup, 2025 Invictus Games, and 2026 FIFA World Cup and is working closely with Destination BC, BC Hotel Association, Destination Vancouver, and other tourism organizations in B.C.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Brittney Anderson - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued December 2022	Division Lead	Status
<p>4. Work across government to identify opportunities to promote British Columbia's conservation initiatives through eco-tourism.</p>	<p>Tourism, ADM Nick Grant</p>	<p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All six tourism regions use the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guide for their work and have incorporated into their tourism plans. • Five of six regions have obtained Biosphere certification. • Carbon footprint measuring of the operators and the region. • The Vancouver Island tourism region is the first destination in North America to perform a carbon audit and develop a decarbonization plan for the destination. • IMPACT, Sustainability Travel and Tourism – the only sustainability-focused tourism conference in North America held annually in B.C. <p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information</p>

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

MANDATE LETTER COMMITMENTS PRIOR TO DECEMBER 2022

Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
<p>1. Support the tourism, arts, culture and sport sectors through the COVID-19 response and recovery, setting them up for success in the years ahead.</p>	<p>All</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2022, the Ministry launched a new three-year strategic plan. • The Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency is based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force and the Tourism Sector Recovery Roundtable. • The Ministry committed more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs during the height of the pandemic. • Further relief funding is being provided with a commitment of \$30 million towards destination development efforts across the province. • The Ministry recently announced (Feb 2023) the \$30 million in one-time grants program for B.C. Fairs, Festivals and Events (BCFFE) fund providing support to eligible events in response to challenges the sector is facing. These funds build on the success of the BCFFE program launched in 2021. • An additional \$12.4 million in additional supports for arts and culture, delivered in March 2022, brought the total recovery support for the sector to over \$52 million. • To address financial challenges faced by B.C.'s sport sector, the Province is providing \$4 million in post-pandemic recovery funding, through the Rally Together Fund, to reignite the amateur sport sector by rebuilding sport membership and bolstering volunteerism. This brings total pandemic response funding to nearly \$22 million. • In 2020/21, the Province invested \$22.5 million over three years through Amplify BC to support B.C.'s music industry. Funding was front-loaded to support live music, based on industry feedback.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2021/22, the Province provided an additional \$2.5 million in support through Amplify BC for live music operational and music companies to support recovery. • In 2021 and 2022, Creative BC distributed \$2 million through the Province's Domestic Motion Picture Fund to support 21 emerging and equity-seeking creators and 26 productions. • In October 2022, Parliamentary Secretary Bob D'Eith sent a letter to Minister Rodriguez in support of the Bill, ^{Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications} Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications • In November 2022, Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith participated in the Motion Picture Production Industry Association's annual marketing trip to Los Angeles, to strengthen relationships and encourage investment from key motion picture partners.
2. Work with the Tourism Task Force to bring together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits to support the tourism industry as it moves toward recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, including by delivering the critical supports for the industry that are part of	Tourism, ADM Nick Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry worked closely with the Tourism Task Force and committed to delivering on the recommendations provided by this group of industry leaders. • Recommendations have largely been completed by our Ministry ^{Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial} Advice/Recommendations • In March 2022, the Ministry launched a new three-year strategic plan. • The Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency is based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force and the Tourism Sector Recovery Roundtable.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
our government's economic recovery plan, StrongerBC.		
3. Continue to collaborate with sport organizations on building a resilient recovery from COVID-19.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry regularly engages with sport stakeholders, like viaSport, ISPARC, and Sport BC to understand the sector's opportunities and challenges. • Government continues to make an annual investment of approximately \$50 million to help provide safe and equal opportunities to participate in sport. • Recent, post-pandemic recovery funding includes the \$4 million Rally Together Fund, to reignite the amateur sport sector by rebuilding sport membership and bolstering volunteerism. The Fund is comprised of two funding streams: Sport Participation and Sport Volunteer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The \$2 million in sport participation grants will help kick-start sports membership with initiatives that focus on recruiting participants of all ages, and offering more inclusive and accessible program options. ○ The second \$2 million grants focus on recruitment, retention and training of volunteers such as coaches, referees, event coordinators and equipment managers. • The Province is also investing in increasing participation for groups that have traditionally been under-represented in sport as part of post-pandemic recovery. This includes creating the RISE Grant Program. This multi-year program invests \$3.6 million to help young British Columbians who are in or from government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities. It provides direct financial support to young people over the next five years, enabling them to participate in sports and cultural activities. • Taken together, the Province invested an additional \$22 million in the sector during the pandemic.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite a dramatic drop in membership with the pandemic, these investments have helped sport membership numbers return to pre-pandemic levels, keeping B.C. as one of the most physically active provinces in Canada.
4. Support the creation of dedicated arts and culture spaces by using capital funding through our new Recovery Investment Fund to expand our government's Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	The Arts infrastructure Program was created in 2020 to help communities renovate or build new cultural spaces and/or purchase specialized equipment. In 2021 Government committed to an increase of \$2 million to the Arts Infrastructure Program which allowed for the support of project planning and grants up to \$250,000 for renovation or new construction (previous maximum had been \$75,000). 97 organizations received funding in the first intake and 84 in the second year. Successful applicants will be announced in March 2023 for the third intake of this program.
5. Continue the redevelopment of the Royal BC Museum.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	<p>The design builder for the Collections and Research Building in Colwood has been selected, a design build contract executed and ground breaking is planned for Summer 2023.</p> <p>A robust consultation with stakeholders began in January 2023 which will inform future plans for the downtown Museum site.</p>
6. Work with the Minister of State for Trade to continue the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	The Chinese Canadian Museum will open in its permanent location in Vancouver Chinatown in July 2023.
7. Start work to create a first-of-its-kind museum to document the history, art	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	Staff are looking at options to advance these cultural infrastructure initiatives including supporting community consultations for a South Asian Museum and

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
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Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
and contributions of South Asian people in BC.		a new provincial Filipino cultural centre commitment from the new MLP ML December 2022.
8. With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and the Minister of State for Child Care, provide provincial funding to support the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, delivering a new state-of-the-art community centre along with hundreds of new child care spaces.	Arts and Culture, ADM Claire Avison	The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport provided the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver with a total of \$25 million in funding to support the new state-of-the-art facility. The Project has now raised over \$138 million for the project from private donors and a \$25 million contribution for the Federal Government was leveraged with this investment from the province.
9. Continue the development and implementation of tangible and intangible heritage policy and programs related to geographical naming, heritage capacity building, historic places recognition, fossil management and the stewardship of physical heritage resources.	Tourism, ADM Nick Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain provincial heritage branch programming including manage a portfolio of provincial heritage properties, provide advice on BC's heritage places, fossils and geonames, provide provincial leadership by establishing policy and best practices related to heritage stewardship. • Continue to work with Indigenous groups to repatriate artefacts stored within the heritage properties portfolio.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
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Minister Melanie Mark - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued February 2022	Division Lead	Status
10. Work with the Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship to ensure the tourism, cultural, recreational, and economic benefits from heritage and historic places, mountain resorts, and adventure tourism are integrated into modernized land use policy and planning.	Tourism, ADM Nick Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of programs to TACS complete (effective April 1, 2022). • Alignment with Land, Water and Resource Stewardship (LWRS) underway on permitting resourcing requirements across the Natural Resource Sector (NRS), including those under the resort and heritage programs – TB decision target Fall 2022. • Presence continues to be maintained within operational Regional Management Teams to ensure one land manager approach to NRS decision making. • Ongoing collaboration with Ministry of Forests and LWRS on policy regarding tourism and recreation values. • To be further defined as LWRS further develops land use planning. • The Ministry works with the B.C. Adventure Tourism Coalition, composed of 19 different sector organizations on policy and programs related to their sector members.

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued November 2020	Division Lead	Status
1. Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to drive a strong recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtables with the Arts and Culture Sector were held in Summer 2021 and co-hosted with BC Arts Council in Spring 2022, informing the ongoing implementation of the BC Arts Council's Extending Foundations, including continuing sector recovery mechanisms and programs. • In 2020/21, the Province invested \$22.5 million over three years through Amplify BC to support B.C.'s music industry. Funding was front-loaded to support live music, based on industry feedback. • In 2021/22, the Province provided an additional \$2.5 million in support through Amplify BC for live music operational and music companies to support recovery.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued November 2020	Division Lead	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2021 and 2022, Creative BC distributed \$2 million through the Province's Domestic Motion Picture Fund to support 21 emerging and equity-seeking creators and 26 productions. • In October 2022, Parliamentary Secretary Bob D'Eith sent a letter to Minister Rodriguez in support of the Bill, IAdvice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications • In November 2022, Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith participated in the Motion Picture Production Industry Association's annual marketing trip to Los Angeles, to strengthen relationships and encourage investment from key motion picture partners.
2. Support the Minister of Finance to re-establish the government-film sector task force to recommend the size and term of a new visual effects tax credit based on production costs.	Sport and Creative, ADM Kim Lacharite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Motion Picture Production Industry Association and the VFX Alliance of BC formally withdrew their request for a COVID-19 Relief Fund (via a letter to Minister Robinson and Minister Mark) in July 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The letter indicated the Visual Effects (VFX) industry has withstood the impacts of the pandemic better than anticipated. • The Ministry of Finance determined there is no longer a need to re-establish a film sector taskforce to recommend the size and term of a visual effects tax credit if the VFX industry is no longer seeking government aid. • Instead, the Province has several projects underway to support workforce development and competitiveness in the creative technology/VFX industry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In November 2021, the Ministry of Post-Secondary and Future Skills (PSFS) provided \$309,000 to support DigiBC to implement several recommendations of their first project to increase sector visibility, collaboration between post-secondaries and industry, and diversity and inclusion. ○ In 2021/22 and 2022/23, PSFS provided \$727,944 for the development of six micro-credential programs targeting the creative technology sector, including the VFX industry.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Mandate Letter Commitments – Summary for Estimates

Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film Bob D'Eith - Mandate Letter Commitments Issued November 2020	Division Lead	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Winter 2022, Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI) undertook a skills gap study to identify common skills gaps across the technology sector, including VFX. ○ Currently, Creative BC is working closely with industry to implement the Creative Pathways initiative through a \$400,000 contribution from PSFS's Sector Labour Market Partnership (SLMP) program. The project provides resources, networking opportunities and set placements for individuals interested in joining the motion picture industry, including VFX.

UPDATED: March 2, 2023

Date	Portfolio	Description	Organizations and People
Feb.23, 2023	Arts & Culture	News Release: Contract awarded for RBCM collections, research building	Province awards a \$204.8-million contract has been awarded to Maple Reinders Constructors Ltd. for the design and construction of the collections and research building (CRB) in Colwood, following a competitive design-build procurement process. Total capital project costs for the building are valued at more than \$270 million.
Feb.16, 2023	Tourism	News Release: Province provides timely support for fairs, festivals, events	Through the B.C. Fairs, Festivals and Events (BCFFE) fund, the Government of B.C. is providing \$30 million in one-time grants to eligible events in response to challenges the sector is facing, such as loss of staffing and volunteers, supply-chain issues, and a cautious return of audiences.
Feb. 13, 2023	Arts & Culture	News Release: Provincial investment supports Family Day fun	Province invests \$300,000 to support free Family Day activities from Feb. 17-20, for families in communities throughout B.C.
Dec. 15, 2022	Arts and Culture	News Release: Province supports inclusive, diverse arts sector with \$2.7 million	More than 250 artists and arts organizations throughout B.C. are benefiting from over \$2.7 million in BC Arts Council (BCAC) grants to support a more inclusive and diverse arts sector.
Nov. 10, 2022	Tourism	News Release: Tourism grants fund almost 100 B.C. events	The Province provided funding to approximately 100 organizations through its Tourism Events Program (TEP) to build B.C.'s reputation as an events destination and increase visitation.
Oct. 14 2022	Arts & Culture	News release: Province boosts support for new Vancouver Art Gallery	The Province invests an additional \$50 million towards the new home for the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG). This is the second provincial investment in the gallery. The B.C. government previously provided \$50 million in 2008, bringing the total provincial investment to \$100 million. This new funding brings the province's total contribution to 1/4 quarter of the overall projects cost and builds on VAG's success in securing private contributions, such as the Audain Foundation's donation of \$100 million and the Chan's of \$40 million.

TACS Accomplishments Table

UPDATED: March 2, 2023

Sept. 26, 2022	Sport	KidSport Week News Release: Programs support families, make sport more accessible	<p>The Province has invested in several programs to help boost participation of vulnerable children and youth in sports. Of the \$2.5 million that was awarded to Sport BC to expand access to amateur and recreational sport programs for children in this province:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.65 million was allocated to the KidSport program for 2022. • \$1.4 million to ASSAI, which provides free school-based program that offers high quality and culturally appropriate sport and arts programs.
Sept. 23, 2022	Arts & Culture	News release: Province funds arts, cultural activities for BC Culture Days	To celebrate BC Culture Days, from Sept. 23 to Oct. 16, 2022, the Province invests \$60k to support free and affordable activities and events throughout British Columbia.
Sept. 23, 2022	Sport	News Release & event: Amateur sport bouncing back from pandemic through new funding	<p>The pandemic has had a negative impact on membership and volunteerism within the sport sector. Overall sport membership has declined from over 800,000 members (2018/19) to just over 500,000 members (2020/21), with over 85% of Provincial Sport Organizations reporting a decline in membership.</p> <p>Provincial News Release to announce grants to rebuild sport membership and volunteerism (\$4 million). This fund will help to ensure that B.C.'s amateur sport system continues to provide opportunities for sport development and recovery as well as the significant community and economic benefits.</p>
August 22, 2022	Arts and Culture	News release announcing the launch of the BC Arts Council Accelerate Program on Sept. 21. (The start date for the intake of applications).	<p>The Accelerate Program offers funding up to \$30,000 over two years to eligible equity-deserving arts and cultural organizations and collectives.</p> <p>The program is focused on removing barriers and increasing access to arts funding for arts organizations from Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) communities, as well as to people of colour, deaf and disability</p>

TACS Accomplishments Table

UPDATED: March 2, 2023

			arts groups or regional communities outside of the capital region and Greater Vancouver.
July 6, 2022	Sport	News Release & event: Province, viaSport partner to take abuse out of the game	The Province is providing \$500,000 to viaSport's Play Safe B.C. program, which aims to prevent and address harassment, abuse, discrimination and other negative behaviours in amateur sport in B.C. Everyone deserves a safe and supporting environment free of harassment, abuse and discrimination. viaSport will administer the program. viaSport also consulted and engaged with organizations and communities since 2017 and is developing a model for the long term. (Results)
June 16, 2022	Sport	News Release & event: Vancouver named FIFA World Cup 2026 official host city	FIFA has confirmed that Vancouver has been chosen as an official host city for the FIFA World Cup 2026.
May 30, 2022	Sport	News Release & event: RISE Grants help youth in and from government care get in the game	The Province is creating a new grant program to help children and youth during and after government care participate in sport, physical and cultural activities. The Province is investing \$3.6 million to give equal opportunities with the new RISE Grant Program. RISE stands for Resilient, Inspire, Strength and Engage.
May 24, 2022	Sport	Joint (fed/prov) funding announcement & event: Invictus Games	The Province and the Federal Government have both committed \$15 million each toward the 2025 Invictus Games, to be held in 2025 in Vancouver & Whistler.
May 18, 2022	Creative Industries	News Release & event: Province bolsters support for live music events through Amplify BC	The Province is supporting the recovery of B.C.'s live music sector with a \$2.5-million boost to the Amplify BC program.
May 5, 2022	Arts & Culture	BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure Program	B.C.'s arts and culture community will benefit from \$4 million in grants through the BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure Program. This funding will support improvements to spaces and facilities for 84 arts and cultural organizations.
April 27, 2022	Tourism	Tourism Events Program	Government is investing as much as \$5 million to support events between October 2022 and September 2023. The Tourism

TACS Accomplishments Table

UPDATED: March 2, 2023

			Events Program aims to strengthen B.C.'s reputation as a top tourism destination and increase tourism benefits to communities.
April 8, 2022	Arts & Culture	Launch of the BC Arts Council's Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024 marks a renewal in the focus of the BC Arts Council to support Calls to Action for Reconciliation, and to enhance equity, diversity, and inclusion within B.C.'s art community.	More artists and arts and culture organizations throughout the province will benefit from changes to the way the BC Arts Council provides funding to support calls to action for reconciliation, diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility by breaking down systemic barriers within its policies and programs to expand funding opportunities for those who have historically been underserved.
April 1, 2022	Arts and Culture	More than \$12.4 million in one-time funding to the BC Arts Council will support a strong recovery for B.C. artists and organizations as the Province continues to build back from the COVID-19 pandemic.	<p>From this funding, the BC Arts Council will distribute \$7.9 million in resilience supplements to more than 300 organizations currently receiving operating assistance. The average grant amount is \$25,000.</p> <p>Additionally, BC Arts Council has allocated \$4.5 million to top up the Arts Impact Grant program, which closed its intake in January 2022. The Arts Impact Grant program enables applicants to prioritize activities that provide the greatest and most meaningful impact to their organization, practice or community. The next intake of this program is anticipated for winter 2023.</p>
March 11, 2022	Tourism	B.C. launches plan to revitalize tourism, create opportunities for people	Launch of a new three-year roadmap to rebuild and revitalize tourism, creating jobs and opportunities for people and communities in every part of the province. The renewed Strategic Framework for Tourism responds to the call to action from the sector to support its recovery from COVID-19. It outlines a roadmap for a more resilient tourism sector by rebuilding to 2019 levels by 2024.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

2023/24 Estimates Summary

MINISTRY ESTIMATES BUDGET OVERVIEW

Vote 44 Ministry Operations
2023/24 Estimates Budget: \$181.659M
(a net increase of \$8.260M or 5% from the
Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$173.399M)

The \$8.260M increase in Ministry Operations is due to the following:

- \$3.992M increase due to the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate
- \$2.996M increase to the Sport and Creative Division and Management Services to support staffing and operational resources for the Marquee Sport Events branch
- \$1.056M increase to Destination BC to fund a budget lift as outlined in their performance-based funding model established through Ministerial Directive.
- \$0.127M increase to support Minister's Office resources and the addition of a Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism.
- \$0.089M increase to the Tourism Sector Strategy Division to support the Mountain Resorts branch as part of the transformation of the Permitting regime in the natural resources sector.

Vote 49 Capital Funding
2023/24 Estimates Budget: \$88.758M
(a net increase of \$22.812M from the
Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$65.946M)

- \$22.812M increase in Capital Funding for the Royal BC Museum Modernization: Collections and Research Building project.

CORE BUSINESS SUMMARY

Tourism Sector Strategy \$25.189M

- \$0.841M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$24.348M
 - \$0.752M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate
 - \$0.089M increase for the Mountain Resorts branch to support Permitting transformation in the natural resources sector

Arts and Culture \$38.561M

- \$0.458M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$38.103M
 - \$0.458M for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate

Sport and Creative Sector \$26.648M

- \$3.234M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$23.414M
 - \$2.884M increase to support marquee sporting events branch
 - \$0.350M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate.

Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies \$83.714M

- BC Games Society \$2.190M
\$0.087M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$2.103M
 - \$0.087M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate
- British Columbia Pavilion Corporation \$7.553M
\$0.552M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$7.001M
 - \$0.552M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate
- Destination BC Corp. \$54.639M
\$1.846M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$52.793M
 - \$1.056M increase to fund a budget lift as outlined in their performance-based funding model
 - \$0.790M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate
- Knowledge Network Corporation \$6.611M
No change from Restated Estimates 2022/23
- Royal BC Museum \$12.721M
\$0.855M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$11.866M
 - \$0.855M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate

Executive and Support Services \$2.117M

- Minister's Office \$0.834M
\$0.127M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$0.707M
 - \$0.115M increase to support Minister's Office resources for the addition of a Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism

- \$0.012M increase to support year 3 of 3 of minister office resource allocations across government
- Financial Services Branch (Corporate Services) \$1.283M
\$0.260M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$1.023M
 - \$0.148M increase for the Shared Recovery Wage Mandate for executive and support services
 - \$0.112M base budget increase to support corporate services allocation for Management Services Division for increased ministry staffing for marquee sporting events

Special Accounts \$5.430M

- BC Arts and Culture Endowment Fund
\$4.230M; No change from Restated Estimates 2022/23
- Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports Fund
\$1.200M; No change from Restated Estimates 2022/23

Capital Funding Vote allocation \$88.758M

- \$22.812M increase to Restated Estimates 2022/23 of \$65.946M.
 - \$78.758M is allocated to the Royal BC Museum modernization project for the Collections Research Building
 - 2023/24 fiscal year will see an increase of \$22.812M (from \$65.946M in 2022/23)
 - The remaining \$10.000M is for BC Pavilion Corporation annual routine maintenance projects for the BC Place Stadium and the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Ministry Capital Budget

- \$0.003M; no change from Restated Estimates 2022/23
- This capital budget allocation is a placeholder in the event the Ministry needs to incur furniture and equipment costs

2023/24 ESTIMATES NOTE

Ministry Overview

Issue: Ministry Overview including FTEs and Funding

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The mission of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is to promote growth in tourism, and integrate it with the vibrant arts, culture, and sport sectors in British Columbia for the benefit of residents, visitors, and investors.
- The ministry's work supports welcoming, inclusive communities that value diversity and equitable opportunities for participation in sports, cultural activities, and the arts.
- The ministry oversees five Crown corporations: Destination BC, the BC Pavilion Corporation, the Royal BC Museum, the Knowledge Network and the BC Games Society.
- The ministry also provides oversight to the Office of the BC Athletic Commissioner.
- The ministry works with the BC Arts Council to support cultural and artistic diversity in the province and with viaSport to support quality, inclusive and accessible sport across B.C.
- Further, the ministry works with Creative BC to grow the economic impact of B.C.'s creative sector, support sustainable employment, and promote B.C. owned creative content and production capabilities.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Tourism Sector Strategy Division

Assistant Deputy Minister: Nick Grant

Description:

The Division supports the tourism sector which contributes significantly to the quality of life for British Columbians. The sector contributes more than \$8.7 billion per year in contributions to B.C.'s GDP.

The Tourism Sector Strategy Division supports the alignment of provincial tourism priorities and sets the strategic direction for tourism in B.C., while working collaboratively with the tourism industry and other parts of the provincial government that deliver tourism-related activities.

2023/24 ESTIMATES NOTE

The Division leads the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency and sets provincial priorities for tourism in B.C. A strong tourism industry is identified as a key pillar of the StrongerBC Economic Plan, and the division develops policies and programs that encourage sustainable economic growth for the travel and tourism industry. Key programs include resort municipality development, community tourism marketing, tourism and business travel events, and tourism infrastructure and destination development.

To do this, the Division works across government to maximize the economic, cultural and social advantages that tourism brings to B.C. This includes working closely with the following key agencies and Crowns, Destination BC (DBC) and B.C. Pavilion Corporation (PavCo).

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2022/23 Restated Estimates	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Planned	2025/26 Planned
Tourism Sector Strategy	24,348	25,189	25,396	25,396
Division Total	24,348	25,189	25,396	25,396

Positions:

57 full-time equivalents (based on organizational charts as at February 2023).

Arts and Culture Division

Assistant Deputy Minister: Claire Avison

Description:

The Division supports the arts and culture sectors which contribute significantly to the quality of life for British Columbians. The sectors contribute more than \$7.6 billion per year to B.C.'s GDP.

To do this, the Division works across government to maximize the economic, cultural and social advantages that these industries bring to B.C. This includes working closely with several key agencies, Crowns, and organizations: including the BC Arts Council (BCAC), the Royal BC Museum (RBCM), and the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of B.C.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2022/23 Restated Estimates	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Planned	2025/26 Planned
Arts and Culture	38,103	38,561	38,647	38,647
Division Total	38,103	38,561	38,647	38,647

2023/24 ESTIMATES NOTE

Positions:

33 full-time equivalents (based on organizational charts as at February 2023).

Sport and Creative Sector Division

Assistant Deputy Minister: Kimberley Lacharite

Description:

The Division supports the development of a strong and sustainable creative sector, which includes the motion picture, music, book and magazine publishing and interactive digital media industries. Together, the sector provides approximately \$4.85 billion in total GDP to the provincial economy.

The Division supports the development and implementation of policy and programs related to sport, including support and funding for sport, physical activity, and event hosting; and the administration of the Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports Fund. The Division works to maximize the power of sport and ensure sport better meets the needs of British Columbians through implementation of *Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sport in British Columbia 2020-2025*. The Framework sets a clear direction to increase sport participation opportunities; support athletes, coaches, officials and administrators to develop and compete at the highest levels; and support hosting of sport events to help communities realize the associated social and economic benefits.

To do this, the Sport and Creative Sector team works across all levels of government and with the following key agencies: Office of the B.C. Athletic Commissioner, Creative BC, Knowledge Network, BC Games Society, viaSport and the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2022/23 Restated Estimates	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Planned	2025/26 Planned
Creative Sector	3,399	3,467	3,479	3,479
Sport	20,015	23,181	23,235	23,235
Division Total	23,414	26,648	26,714	26,714

Positions:

35 full-time equivalents (based on organizational charts as at February 2023)

Deputy Minister's Office

The Deputy Minister's Office (DMO) is responsible for all aspects of information that flows from Elected Officials and the Executive Council (Cabinet) to the ministry by acting as the touchpoint

2023/24 ESTIMATES NOTE

between the elected arm of government and the public service. The office provides strategic advice on issues management, oversees the development of Cabinet material, and provides strategic direction to staff. The DMO also ensures the ministry is in compliance with Cabinet approved mandates, Treasury Board directives and other specific issues.

The DMO builds strategic alliances across government and works with the Executive team and ministry staff to ensure efficient collaboration, the flow of information and increased integration within the Ministry to support the achievement of the Ministry's strategic direction and government's overall objectives.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2022/23 Restated Estimates	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Planned	2025/26 Planned
Deputy Minister's Office	623	691	703	703

Positions:

The Deputy Minister's Office currently has 4 full-time equivalents (as at February 2023).

Contact: Alana Best, Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer, Management Services Division

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan Questions & Answers

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Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

What are the Ministry's goals?

The vision of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is that people and communities across B.C. are vibrant and thriving, with a diversity of opportunities that enrich well-being and support a strong, sustainable economy. The Ministry contributes to community and economic well-being by creating conditions for B.C.'s tourism, arts, culture, sport, creative and heritage sectors to thrive.

The Ministry Service Plan identifies three goals:

Goal 1: British Columbia's tourism economy is resilient and growing sustainably. ~~Support the resiliency and sustainable growth of British Columbia's tourism economy.~~

Goal 2: Grow, strengthen and sustain British Columbia's arts, culture and creative sectors. ~~Support creative, arts and culture organizations and artists to help develop British Columbia's creative economy.~~

Goal 3: Ensure accessible, safe and inclusive sport opportunities for all British Columbians ~~while supporting economic and social development.~~

Have the Ministry's goals changed?

Goal 1 is slightly reworded from 2022 to signal progress B.C.'s ongoing tourism sector recovery from the impacts of the pandemic.

Goal 2 has been reworded to signal that we have moved from providing pandemic supports to a place where we can now grow and strengthen the sectors.

- from "support" to "grow, strengthen and sustain" and,
- from "British Columbia's creative economy" to "British Columbia's arts, culture and creative sectors."

Goal 3 removed "while supporting economic and social development."

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

How do these goals reflect the Ministry's work?

The Ministry's overarching mission is to support government in its focus on results that people can see and feel by helping build a sustainable, clean, and fair economy that can withstand global economic headwinds by developing and delivering policy, programs, legislation, and investments that support sector resiliency and provide residents and visitors with access to meaningful experiences, events, places, and programs that reflect B.C.'s demographic, cultural, and geographic diversity. The goals in the Service Plan have been developed to reflect the continued role and work of the Ministry and the direction provided in the Minister's December 7, 2022, Mandate Letter.

The vision of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is that people and communities across B.C. are vibrant and thriving, with a diversity of opportunities that enrich well-being and support a strong, sustainable economy. The Ministry contributes to community and economic well-being by creating conditions for B.C.'s tourism, arts, culture, sport, creative and heritage sectors to thrive.

Why does this years service plan look different from previous years?

This year the Crown Agency Secretariat (CAS) implemented an updated template where Performance Measures are now linked to Goals, instead of Objectives to communicate long-term key performance measures that are critical to the Ministry's purpose without the need to maintain or develop specific objectives to attach them to. This allows for more flexibility in selecting timely, relevant objectives that may be shorter term or have challenges associated with setting 3+ year performance measure targets for.

In addition, previously a Discussion section existed for Performance Measures. A new Discussion section was added for Objectives and Key Strategies was added to provide further context.

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

What are the Ministry's objectives and performance measures?

Objectives & Performance Measures		2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	Explanation
Objective 1.1: Support the sustainable growth of the tourism sector. Work to ensure B.C.'s tourism sector is resilient and able to compete globally						
Objective 1.2: Focus tourism-related policies and investments on creating healthy, inclusive societies. Support the B.C. tourism sector to recover from the pandemic by promoting and expanding a safe return to event hosting						
PM 1.1a	B.C. tourism industry revenue	\$13,463M, Actual	+60%	+10%	TBD	Change from a Forecast in 2021/22 to an Actual for 2022/23, reflecting increases in tourism through pandemic recovery. Industry revenue is expected to increase as international travel builds toward a return to 2019 levels, but risks include the potential impact of worldwide inflation and ongoing COVID-19 cases as part of travel activity.
PM 1.2	Number of events hosted through the Tourism Events Program, the BC Arts Council funding, Amplify BC, and Hosting BC and Major Sport Events Program funding	ON TRACK 367 137	Maintain or Improve	Maintain or Improve	Maintain or Improve	This Performance Measure has been removed in the 2023/24 Service Plan.
Objective 2.1: Support arts and culture development in British Columbia so that the sector is vibrant, resilient and recognized for its diversity and vitality creative excellence						
PM 2.1a	Number of BC Arts Council grants awarded	1,700 Maintain or exceed	1,700 Maintain or exceed	1,700 TBD	1,700	Note: The 2021/22 actuals are 2,158, above the 2021/22 forecast of 1,885 from the 2022 SP.

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Objectives & Performance Measures		2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	Explanation
						2022/23 Forecast was adjusted downwards from 2021/22 as the Microgrant program in 2020/21 was a one-time program for COVID-19 pandemic relief with numerous small grants.
PM 2.1b	Number of artists and arts organizations supported by the BC Arts Council	1,000 Maintain or exceed	1,000 Maintain or exceed	1,000 TBD	1,000	<p>Note: The 2021/22 Actuals were 1,061, below the 2021/22 forecast of 1,100 in the 2022 SP.</p> <p>Forecast for 2022/23 returns to normal base budget figures- 2021/22 figures are a result of Government's additional investment of \$12.5 million for COVID-19 pandemic supports through StrongerBC that year.</p> <p>Any increase to the 2023/24 target would require an increased budget or giving more grants at smaller amounts.</p>
Objective 2.2 Invest in cultural infrastructure						
PM 2.2	Number of organizations supported for capital infrastructure projects	88	87+ (75+)	87+ (75+)	87+	<p>The 2021/22 Actual is 86, exceeding the 2021/22 Forecast of 75 in the 2022 SP.</p> <p>2022/23 Forecast of 88 includes BC Arts Council Arts Infrastructure Program (estimated 84 grants) plus the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, the new Vancouver Art Gallery, Royal BC Museum (CRB</p>

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Objectives & Performance Measures		2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	Explanation
						<p>Building) and Chinese Canadian Museum. Target in prior year was 75+.</p> <p>Updated guidelines for the Arts Infrastructure Program now allows for a maximum grant of \$250,000, increased from \$75,000.</p> <p>The measure includes the number of direct investments made by the Ministry towards infrastructure projects. Applications for the 2022/23 Arts Infrastructure Program opened November 25, 2022, with results to be announced in March 2023.</p>
Objective 2.3 Support the economic recovery and resiliency of B.C.'s creative sector. Implement initiatives to support B.C.'s creative sector companies and workforce to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and further the creation, production and monetization of commercial creative products.						
PM 2.3	Value of annual economic contribution across B.C.'s creative sector	Maintain or improve (\$5.4B Total GDP 2021/22 actuals)	Maintain or improve	Maintain or improve	Maintain or improve	<p>The 2020/21 Baseline reported in the 2022 SP was \$4.44B Total GDP</p> <p>The 2021/22 actuals are an estimate only through CIERA and will be updated once federal data sets are finalized by Statistics Canada (anticipated by Fall 2023).</p> <p>Some industries in B.C.'s creative sector are demonstrating strong economic</p>

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Objectives & Performance Measures		2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	Explanation
		\$4.44B Total GDP				growth, such as motion picture and interactive digital media, and this is reflected in the data. This performance measure reflects the cumulative impact of the Province's investment in the wider creative sector through a suite of complementary programs and tax incentives. Note: The 2020/21 Baseline reported in the 2022 SP was \$4.44B Total GDP.
Objective 3.1: Collaborate with communities and partners to reduce barriers to inclusivity in sport and increase participation opportunities.						
PM 3.1	Number of children, from population groups typically underrepresented in sport, reached through targeted sport programs	30,000 (25,000 target from 2022/23)	32,000 30,000	34,000 36,000	36,000	The ongoing impacts of COVID-19 have made it more challenging than originally anticipated to get sport programs up and running at full capacity, particularly in Indigenous communities. Targets have been adjusted to reflect the work that is required to re-engage communities and individuals in sport across the province. The 2021/22 baseline for the 2023 SP is 29,400, and has been adjusted from 2020/21 Baseline of 12,500 Data is from the ministry, number of children reached through programs delivered by ISPARC. Note: The 2020/21 baseline reported in the 2022 SP was 12,500 and the

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Objectives & Performance Measures		2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	Explanation
						Forecast for 2022/23 was 2021/22 was 15,000.
Objective 3.2 Support sport in communities across the province and provide opportunities for athletes, coaches and officials to develop and compete in communities across the province. close to home.						
Objective 3.3 Contribute to tourism, economic, social and sport development growth through investing in sport events in communities across the province.						
PM 3.2	Number of communities that host sport events	40	45	45	45	<p>Sport event hosting was slower to emerge from the pandemic than had been originally expected. However, that changed in 2022/23 as more event organizers and communities rebuilt their capacity to host and worked towards planning and hosting events. The Major Events Program and Hosting BC are the two main provincial event hosting funding programs.</p> <p>The 2022/23 Target was 40 events. The 2021/22 Baseline for this measure, as in the 2023 SP, is 39.</p>

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Have the Ministry's objectives changed? Yes.

Objective 1.1 - Shift in language from "work to ensure B.C.'s tourism sector is resilient and able to compete globally" to "Support sustainable growth of the tourism sector." This is in line with the New Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024.

Objective 1.2 - This objective has been updated from the 2022/23 Service Plan. Language change from: "support the B.C. tourism sector to recover from the pandemic by promoting and expanding a safe return to event hosting to: "Focus tourism related policies and investments on creating healthy, inclusive societies."

Objective 2.1 – Shift in language from: "Support arts and culture development in British Columbia so that the sector is vibrant, resilient and recognized for creative excellence"

To: "Support arts and culture development in British Columbia so that the sector is vibrant, resilient, and recognized for its diversity and vitality."

BC Arts Council has introduced a designated priority groups policy to address identified gaps in funding distribution for regional arts and individuals and groups who are Indigenous, Black and people of colour, and those who are Deaf or experience disability. Under the designated priority groups policy, these identified groups will be the focus of BC Arts Council strategic measures, through dedicated programs, funding prioritization processes, partnerships, and outreach.

Objective 2.2 – no change

Objective 2.3 - This year, the Ministry changed this objective to focus on economic recovery rather than pandemic response to: "Implement initiatives to support B.C.'s creative sector companies and workforce to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and further the creation, production and monetization of commercial creative products."

The updated objective aligns with updated Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's mandate commitments.

Objective 3.1 – no change in content, minor wording change.

Objective 3.2 – slight change in language from: "support sport in communities across the province and provide opportunities for athletes, coaches, and officials to develop and compete close to home" to: "provide opportunities for athletes, coaches, and officials to develop and compete in communities across the province."

Objective 3.3 – NEW, added new this year

Has the Ministry revised or removed any performance measures?

Yes – 2022/23 Service Plan PM 1.2a was removed:

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

“Number of events hosted through the Tourism Events Program, BC Arts Council funding; Amplify BC; and Hosting BC and Major Sport Events Program” was removed. This PM was linked to Objective 1.2 which was updated from the 2022/23 Service Plan, which focused specifically on reactivating events to help with economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

How is the Ministry supporting Indigenous Peoples/communities?

The government of B.C. is committed to implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, as well as to demonstrating support for true and lasting reconciliation. To achieve these goals the Ministry is taking the following actions.

The following lists ministry activities towards supporting Indigenous Peoples/communities from the 2023/24 Service Plan:

- The repatriation of artifacts to Indigenous communities is a central tenet of reconciliation. Collections across the province and beyond are working on repatriation policies, best practices, and opportunities. (Heritage Profile, p.6)
- Opportunity for Kamloops to bid on the 2027 North American Indigenous Games will bring tourism, economic and sport development benefits. (Sport Profile, p.7)
- Work with First Nations to secure the bid for the 2027 North America Indigenous Games. (Obj 3.3, p.18)
- Work with Indigenous Tourism BC to support Indigenous communities and businesses to create exceptional tourism experiences and economic development following the principles of self-determination. (Obj 1.2, p.10)
- Invest in arts supports for Indigenous artists and organizations, as well as build cultural competency for non-Indigenous organizations to support reconciliation. (Obj. 2.1, p.12)
- Provide funding opportunities for organizations and communities providing sport programs for under-represented populations, including Indigenous, female, 2SLGBTQIA+, low-income families, individuals with a disability, new Canadians, children in and aging out of care and the 55+ population. (Obj. 3.1, p.16)
- Invest in the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC) to ensure Indigenous Peoples and communities have equitable and meaningful opportunities to participate and compete in sport in a manner that recognizes and respects Indigenous cultures and traditions. (Obj. 3.1, p.16)
- Fund the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), the BC Summer and BC Winter Games, Team BC, and the 55+ BC Games as opportunities to support athlete and coach development and create a pathway for British Columbians to participate in higher levels of competition. (Obj. 3.2, p.18)
- Celebrate the achievements and contributions of B.C. athletes, coaches and volunteers through awards such as the Athlete of the Year Awards and the Premier’s Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport and recognition at the BC Sports Hall of Fame. (Obj 3.2, p.18).

Blue text new wording from 2023/24 Service Plan

Strike through indicates text removed 2022 Service Plan

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

2023/24 – 2025/26 Service Plan

February 2023



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Published by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport 2023/24 – 2025/26 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lana Popham".

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
February 13, 2023

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Strategic Direction

In 2023/24, the Government of British Columbia will continue our work to make life better for people in B.C., improve the services we all rely on, and ensure a sustainable province for future generations. Government will focus on building a secure, clean, and fair economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community. B.C. will continue working toward true and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in an inclusive and sustainable province. The policies, programs and projects developed over the course of this service plan period will focus on results that people can see and feel in four key areas: attainable and affordable housing, strengthened health care, safer communities, and a secure, clean and fair economy that can withstand global economic headwinds.

This 2023/24 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport will support the government's priorities including the foundational principles listed above and selected action items identified in the December 7, 2022 [Minister's Mandate Letter](#).

Purpose of the Ministry

The vision of the [Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport](#) is that people and communities across B.C. are vibrant and thriving, with a diversity of opportunities that enrich well-being and support a strong, sustainable economy. The Ministry contributes to community and economic well-being by creating conditions for B.C.'s tourism, arts, culture, sport, creative and heritage sectors to thrive.

The Ministry oversees five Crown corporations: [Destination BC](#), the [BC Pavilion Corporation](#), the [Royal BC Museum](#), the [Knowledge Network](#), and the [BC Games Society](#). The Ministry also provides oversight to the [Office of the BC Athletic Commissioner](#).

The Ministry works with the [BC Arts Council](#) to support cultural and artistic diversity in the province and with [Creative BC](#) to grow the economic impact of B.C.'s creative sector, support sustainable employment, and showcase B.C.-owned creative content and production capabilities on a global scale. The Ministry also works with [viaSport](#) to support quality, inclusive and accessible sport across B.C.

Delivery of the Ministry's mandate is guided by key legislation, including: the [Arts Council Act](#), the [Athletic Commissioner Act](#), the [Destination BC Corp. Act](#), the [Museum Act](#), the [Pacific National Exhibition Enabling and Validating Act](#), the [Knowledge Network Corporation Act](#), the [Hotel Guest Registration Act](#), the [Hotel Keepers Act](#), the [Pacific National Exhibition Incorporation Act](#), the [Tourism Act](#), the [Resort Timber Administration Act](#), and delegated authorities under the [Land Act](#), [Forest Act](#), and [Heritage Conservation Act](#).

Operating Environment

Tourism and Resorts

British Columbia's tourism industry has built an international reputation for delivering high-quality outdoor and cultural experiences to travelers. The tourism sector continues its sustained recovery from the economic challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. While the number of British Columbia tourism businesses remains relatively stable compared to 2019, overnight visitation in 2022 is expected to be about 80% of 2019 totals.

Some sectors have almost fully recovered while others have struggled. This includes those that are more reliant on international visitors as people worldwide slowly regain confidence in travel safety and airlines re-establish routes into the province.

As travel and tourism is mostly a discretionary activity, the tourism sector is particularly at risk this year due to world-wide belt-tightening in the face of the rising cost of living. Labour shortages are hampering the ability of some sectors to maximize their services, especially in the food services and accommodations sectors. Housing affordability and availability is also hindering the attraction and retention of workers by businesses, especially in popular tourism areas with high housing costs and few rental vacancies. Climate-related emergencies such as fires, floods, and drought have created havoc for an industry that relies on planning weeks or months in advance of travel.

Some of the largest and most recognizable resorts in Canada are on land managed by the Ministry. These provide essential economic, social, community, and sport benefits to communities. Phased development occurs with clear public processes that facilitate strong engagement from local Indigenous communities and community stakeholders.

Heritage

The preservation of heritage contributes to the vibrancy of B.C.'s communities and is an opportunity to build the diversity of the province's cultural fabric for generations to come. Heritage preservation advances a diverse and inclusive society that honours underrepresented and marginalized communities whose voices have not previously been amplified in our history, thereby supporting reconciliation and learning.

The repatriation of belongings to Indigenous communities is a central tenet of reconciliation. Collections across the province and beyond are working on repatriation policies, best practices, and opportunities.

Investments in preservation, conservation and restoration of heritage properties across B.C. are being made by governments, not-for-profits, businesses, and individuals.

Sport

Participation in sport is a meaningful opportunity for residents and visitors across B.C. to come together and celebrate community. The sport sector's recovery from the pandemic has been slower than anticipated. The number of members in sport organizations and the number of volunteers continues to lag behind pre-pandemic levels. The slower return of sport has been magnified by several external factors. Affordability pressures throughout the economy impact the sport sector and in particular, vulnerable, racialized and marginalized populations. Rising costs related to registration fees, equipment, travel and accommodation all affect participants, coaches and officials' ability to participate. Population growth and aging sport infrastructure mean new sport facilities are needed and existing facilities require upgrades. Inflationary pressures in the building sector and lack of sport infrastructure funding programs also make investments in new sport infrastructure projects less viable. Access to sport facilities is further complicated by the labour supply issues in municipalities and recreation centres, which are being forced to limit facility hours due to staff shortages. There are also increasing reports of abuse in sport. These reports are creating a heightened awareness of sports culture and a higher demand from the public for action to encourage a sporting culture that is safe, inclusive, tolerant and respectful. The Ministry is working closely with the sector to support resilient and responsible growth, and to foster the conditions for sports to thrive in B.C.

The return of sport event hosting is helping B.C. in its recovery from the pandemic. In particular, the awarding of the 2024 Grey Cup, 2025 Invictus Games and 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup to British Columbia as well as the opportunity for Tk'emlups te Secwepemc and the City of Kamloops to bid on the 2027 North American Indigenous Games will bring tourism, economic and sport development benefits to B.C. for years to come.

Creative

The creative sector is on an upwards trend towards recovery from the pandemic, with strong global demand for creative content: video games, books, music, movies, and television shows. It continues to face challenges, however, including labour shortages, increased operating costs due to inflation, and audience hesitation (e.g., returning to live music venues and festivals). Live music companies are facing a 25-30% increase in operating costs, and publishing companies have experienced significantly increased printing, paper, and shipping expenses. Overall, monetization of music and publishing products have been increasingly difficult in a competitive and crowded digital environment. Additionally, the visual effects sector is challenged by labour shortages, with B.C. being at risk of companies and workers choosing other Canadian jurisdictions with lower cost of living and more access to housing.

In response to these pressures, there are opportunities for adaptation and modernization within the creative policy, legislation, and regulatory environment. In late 2022, the B.C. government released the updated [B.C. Film Location Policy](#), which will help coordinate and improve permitting and licensing with the motion picture industry. The federal government is actively working to update the Canadian broadcasting system through [Bill C-11](#), the *Online Streaming Act*. If passed, this legislation will require online streaming services to contribute to

the domestic funding system, similar to traditional broadcasters. The Province will work closely with industry to contribute to consultations, led by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, ensuring that B.C.'s creators are well-represented in regulation development.

Arts & Culture

Arts and culture enrich wellbeing, community and tell the diverse stories of peoples in B.C. The arts and culture sector continues to be challenged by the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and slower-than-expected recovery, including: audience hesitation to return, changes in audience behaviour and preferences, and a shortage of labour supply which places even more pressure on existing staff. The sector's resilience continues to be tested by labour market shortages, inflationary pressures on both operating and capital, and the resulting fiscal measures implemented by not-for-profit boards which exacerbate these challenges. Lack of affordable and available cultural, housing, and working spaces also continue to negatively impact the sector across the province.

Meanwhile, extreme climate events, public expectations, and changing socio-cultural demographics are increasing demands for a new vision for arts and cultural funding and the renewal and refurbishment of aging arts and cultural infrastructure, in both traditional urban centres and more equitably across a growing province. The Ministry, through initiatives such as the BC Arts Council's *Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024*, launched in Spring 2022, is building off existing commitments and has taken new actions to support resilience and renewal for a more vibrant, diverse, equitable, and inclusive B.C. arts and culture sector.

Economic Statement

B.C.'s economy has been resilient to pandemic, geopolitical and climate-related disruptions. However, higher interest rates are expected to weigh on the economy in the coming years. Following a rapid recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, high inflation led to successive interest rate increases from the Bank of Canada in 2022. The impact of higher interest rates has been evident in housing markets and there is uncertainty over its transmission to the rest of the economy in B.C. and among our trading partners. B.C. is heading into this challenging period in relatively strong position, with a low unemployment rate. The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) estimates that B.C. real GDP expanded by 3.0% in 2022 and expects growth of 0.5% in 2023 and 1.6% in 2024. Meanwhile for Canada, the EFC estimates growth of 3.4% in 2022 and projects national real GDP growth of 0.5% in 2023 and 1.5% in 2024. As such, B.C.'s economic growth is expected to be broadly in line with the national average in the coming years. The risks to B.C.'s economic outlook center around interest rates and inflation, such as the risk of further inflationary supply chain disruptions, the potential for more interest rate increases than expected, and uncertainty around the depth and timing of the impact on housing markets. Further risks include ongoing uncertainty regarding global trade policies, the emergence of further COVID-19 variants of concern and lower commodity prices.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: British Columbia's tourism economy is resilient and growing sustainably.

British Columbia's tourism industry creates opportunities for people to have a better life through community enhancement, sustainable growth, and climate action. The Ministry's stewardship of tourism is rooted in the principles of diversity, inclusivity, reconciliation, and partnerships.

Objective 1.1: Support the sustainable growth of the tourism sector.

As tourism continues to recover from the impacts of the pandemic, the Ministry is supporting the sector and communities in efforts to rebuild their visitor economies and sustainably manage growth to enhance the quality of B.C.'s tourism experiences. Successful sustainable growth management reinforces B.C.'s "Super, Natural" brand and contributes to the province's unique selling proposition in a world increasingly concerned about human effects on the planet.

Key Strategies

- Continue to market rural and urban B.C. destinations to support the continued recovery and long-term resiliency of the tourism sector.
- Invest in destination development and tourism infrastructure to enhance and promote visitor experiences and foster community vitality.
- Work with the tourism sector to continue to reactivate the hosting of large meetings, conventions and exhibitions and position B.C. as a safe, world-class, event hosting jurisdiction.
- Promote safe, responsible and respectful outdoor recreation and eco-tourism that provides experiential and economic opportunities from B.C.'s natural spaces while maintaining strong environmental stewardship.
- Champion leading human resources practices that support the tourism sector's efforts to address recruitment and retention challenges and promote the variety of job opportunities.

Discussion

A flourishing tourism sector is a key pillar of the [StrongerBC](#) Economic Plan. Government is working with Destination BC and industry partners to meet ambitious goals for growth, sustainability and stewardship. Destination BC is leading enhanced marketing efforts to bring back international tourists (driving demand) and the Ministry is partnering with communities to invest in destination development and tourism infrastructure (creating supply). The Ministry is also providing specific funding to rebuild the business events sector (e.g., conferences, conventions), which attracts high spending visitors during shoulder and winter seasons, as

well as promoting visitor access and sustainable management of outdoor recreation areas across the province to broaden economic activity on the land base. Together these targeted actions, along with working with industry to address workforce shortages, will contribute to the important economic recovery of the sector and communities across the province.

Objective 1.2: Focus tourism-related policies and investments on creating healthy, inclusive societies.

The [Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024](#), released in March 2021, identifies tourism's power to boost quality of life for people living in every corner of our province. It is important for the Ministry to undertake initiatives that serve a dual purpose of creating tourism revenues and quality community enhancement opportunities for residents.

This objective has been updated from the 2022/23 Service Plan, which focused specifically on reactivating events to help with economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Strategies

- Work with Indigenous Tourism BC to support Indigenous communities and businesses to create exceptional tourism experiences and economic development following the principles of self-determination.
- Work with partner ministries and the sector to build a cleaner tourism industry that is prepared to adapt to climate change.
- Integrate tourism into the emergency management structure to support visitor safety, business resilience, and B.C.'s reputation as a safe and welcoming destination.
- Continue to support the tourism sector in becoming more inclusive and accessible, including providing tools and resources to help industry create inclusive tourism experiences.
- Invest in experiences and events that reconnect people and generate economic activity through sport, arts, culture and heritage.

Discussion

In addition to being a strong economic driver for the province, tourism is also a contributor to the social wellbeing of communities in B.C. For Indigenous Peoples, tourism provides economic benefits and the opportunity to share their stories in the ways they choose. The Ministry has a long-standing and positive relationship with the Indigenous Tourism Association of BC, articulated through the Indigenous Tourism Accord, and will continue to support their work by partnering in business support, tourism development and training opportunities for Indigenous communities and businesses.

The Ministry is working with the sector on promoting cleaner growth through adoption of lower-carbon alternatives and coordinating emergency management preparation and response through the Tourism Emergency Management Framework. The Ministry will also continue to invest through programs like the Tourism Events Program, Sport Hosting and its

portfolio of heritage sites to support events and activities that are beneficial to communities, and prioritize ensuring tourism events, attractions and experiences are inclusive and accessible through infrastructure programs such as the Destination Development Fund.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
1.1a B.C. tourism industry revenue ¹	\$13,463M	+50%	+60%	+10%	TBD

Data source:

¹BC Stats. Measured on a calendar year basis.

Discussion

Annual growth in provincial tourism revenue is a fundamental measure of economic success. It measures the money received by businesses, individuals, and governments due to tourism activities. This is an important measure of the success of the tourism industry's economic recovery and ongoing improvement initiatives as it operates in an increasingly competitive world market. Industry revenue is expected to increase as international travel builds toward a return to 2019 levels, but risks include the potential impact of worldwide inflation and ongoing COVID-19 cases as part of travel activity.

Goal 2: Grow, strengthen and sustain British Columbia's arts, culture and creative sectors.

Residents and visitors should have meaningful opportunities to participate in arts, culture and creative events and experiences that reflect B.C.'s demographic, cultural, and geographic diversity and resilience.

Objective 2.1: Support arts and culture development in British Columbia so that the sector is vibrant, resilient, and recognized for its diversity and vitality.

A vibrant, resilient and recognized arts and culture sector supports not only a strong, sustainable economy but fosters wellbeing, inclusion and a sense of community across the province.

Key Strategies

- Improve access to funding for historically underserved artists, cultural practitioners, and arts and culture organizations.

- Invest in arts supports for Indigenous artists and organizations, as well as build cultural competency for non-Indigenous organizations to support reconciliation.
- Invest in programs that support sector recovery and renewal, increase equity practices in the sector, and community connectedness through arts and culture.

Discussion

Through the *Extending Foundations Action Plan: 2022-2024*, the BC Arts Council is focused on supporting the arts and culture community to navigate through a period of renewal as it emerges from the health, economic, social, and cultural impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Alongside a more general focus on reconciliation, equity, diversity, inclusion and access, the BC Arts Council has introduced a designated priority groups policy to address identified gaps in funding distribution for regional arts and individuals and groups who are Indigenous, Black and people of colour, and those who are Deaf or experience disability. Under the designated priority groups policy, these identified groups will be the focus of BC Arts Council strategic measures, through dedicated programs, funding prioritization processes, partnerships, and outreach.

Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
2.1a Number of BC Arts Council grants awarded	2,158 ¹	1,700 ²	1,700 ³	1,700	1,700
2.1b Number of artists and arts organizations supported by the BC Arts Council	1,061 ¹	1,000 ²	1000 ³	1000	1,000

Data source: BC Arts Council Grant Management System

¹This includes all funding provided through BC Arts Council programs and includes recipients from grants delivered through BC Arts Council partner programs (First People's Cultural Council, BC Touring Council, ArtStarts, Creative BC).

²Forecast returns to normal base budget figures. 2021/22 figures are a result of Government's additional investment of \$12.5 million for COVID-19 pandemic supports through StrongerBC that year.

³Any increase to this target would require an increased budget or giving more grants at smaller amounts.

Discussion

The vibrancy and resiliency of the sector is supported by the Arts and Culture Division through programs that are equitable, accessible, and reflect the diversity of British Columbians. Increasing the diversity of funded artists and arts organizations in B.C. will expand the reach of BC Arts Council funding, while also helping to increase equity, access and diversity practices in the sector. This will be guided by the internal analysis of the distribution and impact of funding for various groups of applicants through equity informed identity factors. Ideally, this work will

inform future measures to reflect the diversity, distribution and range of impacts of BC Arts Council funding. The Province also continues to support approximately \$300,000 in funding via cultural organization partners for free cultural events that engage families and communities across the province as part of B.C. Culture Days and Family Day celebrations.

Objective 2.2: Invest in cultural infrastructure.

The Minister's mandate letter commitments related to arts and culture infrastructure support the creation of dedicated arts and culture spaces and the renovation of existing spaces, as well as investments in large cultural infrastructure projects.

Key Strategies

- Invest in arts and cultural infrastructure projects through the BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure Program.
- Advance priority cultural infrastructure projects, including mandate commitments.

Discussion

Investing in arts infrastructure projects in B.C. supports the resilience and economic health of the creative, arts and culture sectors from increasing affordability, venues and workspaces, labour and economic pressures, as well as wildfires, flooding, and other severe environmental events.

The BC Arts Council launched the Arts Infrastructure Program (AIP) in 2020/21. Updated guidelines for the AIP in 2021/22 now allow for a maximum grant of \$250,000, increased from \$75,000.

Beyond AIP, the Province has committed to or is investing in multiple large scale cultural infrastructure projects that support its priorities, many of which stem from previous mandate commitments. These projects engage British Columbians, support diverse communities, and act as flagships for a vibrant and resilient arts and culture sector, including:

- Province-wide community engagement on the future of the Royal BC Museum and advancing work for a new Collections and Research Building.
- Investments in the new Vancouver Art Gallery, the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.
- Working in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.

These projects also support creativity and artistic innovation; equity, diversity, and inclusion; multiculturalism, anti-racism and safer communities; accessibility; reconciliation and repatriation; and creative and innovative ideas for the economic vibrancy of a stronger B.C.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
2.2 Number of organizations supported for capital infrastructure projects	86 ¹	88 ²	87+	87+	87+

Data source: BC Arts Council and Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.

¹BC Arts Council Arts Infrastructure Program (84) plus Royal BC Museum and Chinese Canadian Museum (Wing Sang Building purchase).

²BC Arts Council Arts Infrastructure Program (estimated 84 grants) plus the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, the new Vancouver Art Gallery, Royal BC Museum (CRB Building) and Chinese Canadian Museum.

Discussion

The measure includes the number of direct investments made by the Ministry towards infrastructure projects. Applications for the 2022/23 Arts Infrastructure Program opened November 25, 2022, with results to be announced in March 2023.

Objective 2.3: Support the economic recovery and resiliency of B.C.'s creative sector.

The Ministry targets policy and investments to leverage opportunities in the motion picture, music, books and magazine publishing, and interactive digital media industries. These efforts result in expanding global market reach, increasing regional activity, and generating high-paying employment opportunities.

Key Strategies

- Implement the B.C. Film Location Policy across government and work with provincial partners to develop an Indigenous Engagement Guide for Film. This will facilitate a comprehensive, government-wide approach to working with the motion picture industry in B.C., support meaningful reconciliation, and generate economic development opportunities for communities across the province.
- Advocate for B.C.'s domestic motion picture industry in the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) hearings for the *Online Streaming Act*.
- Deliver the third and final year of current Amplify BC funding to support the recovery of B.C.'s music sector and pursue its renewal.
- Work with representatives from B.C. book and magazine industries to address emerging opportunities and challenges.
- Support the visual effects industry to address workforce challenges and maintain competitiveness.

Discussion

The creative sector is made up of four industries: motion picture, music, interactive digital media, and book and magazine publishing. This year, the Ministry changed this objective to focus on economic recovery rather than pandemic response. The updated objective aligns with the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's mandate commitments to *"work with the creative sector to identify strategies to drive a strong recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic."*

Each of the creative industries is recovering from the impacts of the pandemic at a different rate. Factors include a shortage of labour, increased operating costs to cover health and safety requirements, insurance, audience hesitation (e.g., returning to live music venues and festivals), inflation, and rising costs of all goods and services. Despite these challenges, the motion picture and interactive digital media industries are demonstrating growth.

The Ministry is working closely with Creative BC to monitor the sector's recovery and support long-term competitiveness. Monitoring includes regular meetings, reporting, and real-time information sharing. The Ministry will work with both Knowledge Network and Creative BC to prioritize funding allocations and access for equity deserving creative professionals and businesses.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual ²	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
2.3a Value of annual economic contribution across B.C. creative sector ¹	\$5.4B Total GDP	Maintain or improve	Maintain or improve	Maintain or improve	Maintain or improve

¹ Data Source: Internally compiled statistics from Creative BC's Creative Industries Economic Results Assessment (CIERA). CIERA is updated on an annual basis. Any changes reflect refinements to federal public data sets from Statistics Canada. These refinements are applied annually to baseline data to ensure historical consistency and comparability.

² The 2021/22 actuals are an estimate only through CIERA and will be updated once federal data sets are finalized by Statistics Canada (anticipated by Fall 2023).

Discussion

Some industries in B.C.'s creative sector are demonstrating strong economic growth, such as motion picture and interactive digital media, and this is reflected in the data. This performance measure reflects the cumulative impact of the Province's investment in the wider creative sector through a suite of complementary programs and tax incentives. These investments leverage federal and private sector funding and ensure future growth in B.C.'s creative sector.

In the year ahead, the Ministry will continue to work closely with Creative BC to monitor the sector's performance and success through annual Creative Industries Economic Results Assessment (CIERA) data generation. In FY 2023/24, Creative BC will release CIERA data for 2022 with further improvements and additional indicators, such as demographic and

environmental insights. This will result in refinements to the accuracy and applicability. Ministry staff use the annual CIERA data to identify areas within the creative sector that may require additional support and resources.

Goal 3: Ensure accessible, safe and inclusive sport opportunities for all British Columbians.

British Columbia's sport system includes and welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The Ministry provides expertise, tools, policy, and supports to grow and foster diverse, accessible, safe, and inclusive opportunities for sport sector participants.

Objective 3.1: Collaborate with communities and partners to reduce barriers to inclusivity in sport and increase participation.

Provincial and multi-sport organizations such as Basketball BC, BC Wheelchair Sports, BC Special Olympics and the B.C. Seniors Games Society offer residents and visitors the opportunity to play, learn, and compete in sport. In its funding agreements with provincial sport organizations, viaSport requires inclusive sport programming that encourages participation from a diverse range of participants.

Key Strategies

- Continue to implement *Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sport in British Columbia 2020-2025*, and further support the sport sector as it continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In partnership with viaSport, implement *PlaySafe BC* programming that prevents and addresses maltreatment in sport to help foster safe, positive and inclusive environments throughout B.C.
- Provide funding opportunities for organizations and communities providing sport programs for under-represented populations, including Indigenous, female, 2SLGBTQIA+, low-income families, individuals with a disability, new Canadians, children in and aging out of care and the 55+ population.
- Invest in the *Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC)* to ensure Indigenous Peoples and communities have equitable and meaningful opportunities to participate and compete in sport in a manner that recognizes and respects Indigenous cultures and traditions.

Discussion

Supporting children and youth from population groups typically under-represented in sport is a priority for the Ministry as identified in the *Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sport in British Columbia 2020-2025*. Under-represented groups include Indigenous Peoples, girls and women, low-income families, individuals with a disability, new Canadians, children in and

aging out of care, and the 55+ population. The Province invests in programs to help under-represented groups, including the After School Sports and Arts Initiative, KidSport BC, Resilient, Inspire, Strength and Engage (RISE) grants, and annual investment in the Indigenous, Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC).

Pandemic recovery measures include a \$4M investment to create the Rally Together Fund. The Fund is helping re-ignite participation and volunteerism in amateur sport following the declines experienced as a result of the pandemic.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2021/22 Baseline	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
3.1 Number of children, from population groups typically under-represented in sport, reached through targeted sport programs ¹	29,400	30,000	32,000	34,000	36,000

Data source:

¹ Total number of children reached through programs delivered by the Indigenous, Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), KidSport BC, and the After School Sport and Arts initiative (ASSAI) administered by the Ministry. Baseline data is from ISPARC's 2020/21 Annual Report, Sport BC's 2020/21 Annual Report, and ASSAI estimates from the 2021/22 school year.

Discussion

This performance measure tracks the number of children and youth reached through targeted initiatives intended to increase sport participation opportunities for those groups under-represented in sport. This measure does not include children and youth from key populations reached through other mainstream sport programming. The ongoing impacts of COVID-19 have made it more challenging than originally anticipated to get sport programs up and running at full capacity, particularly in Indigenous communities. Targets have been adjusted to reflect the work that is required to re-engage communities and individuals in sport across the province.

Monitoring how targeted programs are reaching children, from population groups typically under-represented in sport, provides an important indication of whether the sport sector is inclusive of all participants. Tracking the participation from these groups is achieved by data collection at the community and provincial level through annual reports by local and provincial sport organizations.

Objective 3.2: Provide opportunities for athletes, coaches and officials to develop and compete in communities across the province.

The Province strives for system excellence in sport by supporting programs and services for athletes, coaches, officials, practitioners, and leaders through enhanced coordination and communication across sport organizations.

Key Strategies

- Fund the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), the BC Summer and BC Winter Games, Team BC, and the 55+ BC Games as opportunities to support athlete and coach development and create a pathway for British Columbians to participate in higher levels of competition.
- Develop talent identification strategies and programs to support athletes as they progress through the sport system so they can achieve their best.
- Celebrate the achievements and contributions of B.C. athletes, coaches and volunteers through awards such as the Athlete of the Year Awards, the Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport, and recognition at the BC Sports Hall of Fame.
- Continue to fund the Enhanced Excellence Program to target high performance initiatives and create a pathway to place more B.C. athletes on national teams with the potential to win medals in international competitions.

Discussion

The Ministry's investment in provincial and multi-sport organizations, initiatives and events such as BC Games, the Canadian Sport Institute Pacific, and the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council helps ensure pathways for British Columbians to achieve their highest potential.

Objective 3.3: Contribute to tourism, economic, social and sport development growth through investing in sport events in communities across the province.

Sport event hosting supports tourism, economic, social and sport development. The Province's investment in these events helps to ensure that communities, athletes and sports fans throughout the province are able to realize the benefits associated with sport event hosting.

Key Strategies

- Invest in sport hosting opportunities that will support economic recovery and local sport development in communities across the province.
- Work with First Nations to secure the bid for the 2027 North America Indigenous Games.
- Develop strong impact and legacy plans to help realize the social and economic benefits associated with hosting marquee sport events such as the 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup.

Discussion

Sport event hosting supports economic development in communities across the province and provides valued opportunities for B.C. athletes in pursuit of the podium to compete locally. The Province has committed to supporting a number of marquee sport events in the coming years, including the Grey Cup 2024, Invictus Games 2025, and the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026. The Province has also demonstrated support for a 2027 bid to host the North American Indigenous Games in B.C. The Ministry's Marquee Sport Events team supports single-sport competitive events, usually aligned with a national sport organization. The Hosting BC program, administered by viaSport, supports smaller, regional sport events.

Hosting sport events provides opportunities to create long-lasting benefits for our tourism sector, amateur sport organizations, and local economies throughout the province. Major games will also provide host communities with opportunities to build event-hosting capacity and support future economic development.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2021/22 Baseline	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target
3.3 Number of communities that host sport events ¹	39	40	45	45	45

Data source:

¹Major Events Program and Hosting BC.

Discussion

Tracking the distribution of sport events supported by the Ministry helps to understand the distribution and number of communities that are able to realize the economic and social benefits of sport event hosting. This measure also supports the Event Hosting objective in the Province's Strategic Framework for Sport, which is to ensure that sport contributes to the social and economic objectives of communities throughout B.C.

Sport event hosting was slower to emerge from the pandemic than had been originally expected. However, that changed in 2022/23 as more event organizers and communities rebuilt their capacity to host and worked towards planning and hosting events. The Major Events Program and Hosting BC are the two main provincial event hosting funding programs. They continue to be a key driver in stimulating sport development, community engagement, tourism, and economic growth across a wide range of regions in B.C.

Financial Summary

Core Business	2022/23 Restated Estimates ¹	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Plan	2025/26 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Tourism Sector Strategy	24,348	25,189	25,396	25,396
Arts and Culture	38,103	38,561	38,647	38,647
Sport and Creative Sector	23,414	26,648	26,714	26,714
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	80,374	83,714	84,596	84,918
Executive and Support Services	1,730	2,117	2,144	2,144
BC Arts and Culture Endowment special account	4,230	4,230	4,230	4,230
Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports Fund	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Total	173,399	181,659	182,927	183,249
Capital Expenditures (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services	3	3	3	3
Total	3	3	3	3
Capital Funding Vote (\$000)				
B.C. Pavilion Corporation Capital Fund	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Royal B.C. Museum Capital Fund	55,946	78,758	81,784	0
Total	65,946	88,758	91,784	10,000
Other Financing Transactions (\$000)				
Tourism Development Disbursements	600	600	600	600
Total Net Cash Requirements	600	600	600	600

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2022/23 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2023/24 Estimates.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of February 13, 2023, the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

[BC Arts Council](#)

[BC Games Society](#)

[BC Pavilion Corporation](#)

[Creative BC](#)

[Destination British Columbia](#)

[Knowledge Network Corporation](#)

[Royal British Columbia Museum](#)

[Medal of Good Citizenship Committee](#)

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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MINISTRY RESPONSE TO TRC/UNDRIP

Issue: Actions being taken to implement UNDRIP and TRC calls to action.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for all.
- Our Government is committed to responding to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Calls to Action on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada.
- The *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan is Government's commitment to putting reconciliation into action across all areas of government.
- My Ministry is making progress on this in numerous ways such as:

Tourism

- Supporting and advancing true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through tourism development is a key priority for my Ministry.
- We work closely with our Indigenous tourism partners to help preserve and promote the rich culture and heritage of Indigenous people across the province.
- We partner with Indigenous Tourism BC to deliver support and funding to Indigenous tourism businesses throughout BC.
- Some recent joint initiatives delivered through Indigenous Tourism BC include \$3.7M in capacity building funding, \$8M in recovery funding for Indigenous tourism businesses,

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People

- In December 2022, my Ministry renewed and signed the *Indigenous Tourism Accord* with Indigenous Tourism BC.
- This acknowledges the long-standing relationship between ITBC and the Province and reaffirms our shared commitment to reconciliation.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Creative

- Through Creative BC and the Knowledge Network, we amplify the voices of Indigenous creators, producers and storytellers.
- Creative BC advances reconciliation through partnerships to support more opportunities for Indigenous creators.
- The Knowledge Network invests in original Indigenous content and measures success through its commissioning target.

Arts & Culture

- Arts and culture have a critical role to play in reconciliation – we take our lead from Indigenous artists, organizations and communities, and we respect the principle of self-determination.
- BC Arts Council's (BCAC) strategic plan includes Indigenous Arts & Culture as a priority, realized in part through its programs and its longstanding partnership with First Peoples' Cultural Council; additionally, the BCAC's Extending Foundations Action Plan situates Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Access at the heart of its work.
- In 2022, through the BCAC we provided \$1.7 million to support First Peoples' Cultural Council's Indigenous Arts Programs, including the Indigenous Scholarship program.
- We also provided \$750,000 to First People's Cultural Council to support repatriation and to support the co-development of a Provincial repatriation framework.
- We are working closely with the Royal BC Museum on public engagement and consultation, a key focus of which is reconciliation and ensuring Indigenous voices and experiences are reflected.
- The Ministry continues to make progress on the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

Sport

- My Ministry continues to make significant progress to implement UNDRIP and the Calls to Action related to sport (Actions #87-#91). This work includes:

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Action #87

- Recognizing and honouring Indigenous youth who excel in sport and academics, and are role models in their communities through the annual Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport delivered by ISPARC.
- Digitizing the award-winning Indigenous Sport Gallery at the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame.

Action #88

- Investing \$1.4 million in ISPARC annually to support their Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Strategy. ISPARC programs reach about 25,000 Indigenous peoples each year.
- Continuing our funding commitment to support B.C. athletes at the North American Indigenous Games.

Action #89

- Funding to pilot collaborative partnerships with ISPARC, select Provincial Sport Organizations (e.g., BC Hockey, Wheelchair Basketball) and the Canadian Sport for Life Society to enhance inclusiveness and reconciliation throughout the provincial sport system.
- Expanding pathways for Indigenous athletes to compete at the BC Summer and Winter Games, the first partnership of its kind with a provincial Games in Canada.
- Partnering with the BC Games Society, ISPARC and BC Lacrosse Association to support Indigenous athletes to compete in Box Lacrosse at the 2022 Canada Summer Games.
- Partnering with ISPARC to support the T'kemlúps te Secwépemc and City of Kamloops bid to host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games.

Action #90

- Indigenous youth continue to be a key target group for Ministry programming.

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- **Through the BC Sport Participation Program, funding ISPARC to develop an Indigenous Cultural Safety Training Module to build awareness and knowledge in the sport sector of the ongoing colonial impact on Indigenous peoples and to support the delivery and improved access to programs for Indigenous communities.**
- **Investing in a pilot initiative to reach more Indigenous people with disabilities. ISPARC, the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability, Disability Sport Organizations and other key stakeholders are undertaking work to identify service gaps and program delivery options.**

Action #91

- **The 2024 BC Winter Games will be co-hosted by Lhtako First Nation and City of Quesnel, the first partnership of its type for a BC Games.**
- **If Tkemlúps te Secwépemc and City of Kamloops are successful in their bid to host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games, the community will lead the planning and execution of the event in partnership with ISPARC, the Province of B.C. and community partners.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Tourism Sector

- Supporting the recovery and development of Indigenous tourism in BC has been a key focus of the tourism sector over the past few years.
- Based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force in late 2020, the Province has allocated a total of \$8M delivered through two intakes of relief funding to Indigenous tourism businesses. This funding was administered through Indigenous Tourism BC.
- In addition, Indigenous tourism businesses in BC have received over \$28M to support recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These projects were supported by StrongerBC programs such as the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP), Tourism Dependent Communities Program, and Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiative.
- In January 2022, \$3.7M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) to support implementation of their 3-year Alignment Strategy – Pulling Together for Recovery. The Strategy focuses on alignment of Indigenous, provincial, regional, and federal efforts to accelerate Indigenous success in tourism and support pandemic recovery.

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- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People
- **Declaration Act:** The tourism branch has committed to two actions under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act) which support reconciliation through tourism.
 - **Action 4.37:** Provide funding to assist Indigenous tourism businesses that have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to further support recovery of the Indigenous tourism sector in B.C. **Result:** A total of \$8M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) in 2021 to deliver the BC Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund.
 - **Action 4.38:** Provide investments to Indigenous Tourism B.C. to support Indigenous tourism, Indigenous job creation, preservation of Indigenous languages, celebration of Indigenous cultures and the stewardship of territories, and to tell the stories of Indigenous Peoples in B.C. in their own words. **Result:** A one-time allocation of \$3.7M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) in January 2022 to support implementation of their *Indigenous Tourism Alignment Strategy 2021-2024*. This work is still in progress.
- **Indigenous Tourism Accord:** In December 2022, the Indigenous Tourism Accord was renewed and signed between the Ministry and Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC).
- The Accord builds on the long-standing relationship between ITBC and the Province and aims to strengthen collaboration on Indigenous tourism development across British Columbia. It also reaffirms the provincial government's commitments made under the Declaration Act.
- **Strategic Framework:** A key priority of the newly updated *Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency* is to support true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous people through tourism.
- Under the Framework, there are two main actions that help prioritize and guide the tourism sector to support meaningful reconciliation:
 - Work with Indigenous partners to preserve and promote living cultures and rich heritage of Indigenous peoples, if and how they determine it would benefit their community.
 - Following the principle of self-determination, support Indigenous communities to develop new tourism experiences and recover from the pandemic.

Creative Sector

- Creative BC advances meaningful reconciliation through its programs and partnerships, including the Indigenous Music Initiative delivered by the First Peoples' Cultural Council (through Amplify BC), and the \$1 million Rogers Group of Funds partnership to support Indigenous motion picture creators.
- In October 2022, First Peoples' Culture Council hosted the Indigenous Music Retreat for 11 participants and 5 mentors, funded in part by Amplify BC.
- Knowledge Network's 2023/24 Service Plan includes a three-year performance measure to increase original commissions to Indigenous production companies.

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- One of Knowledge Network's mandate commitments is to "collaborate with independent Indigenous filmmakers." To achieve its mandate, in 2022/23 Knowledge Network has:
 - Launched its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan;
 - Shared Indigenous perspectives through programming, such as the *Alanis Obomsawin Retrospective*, and online collection of 40 films focusing on the experiences of the country's Indigenous people and *Now Is the Time*, a documentary exploring carver Robert Davidson's work to return the totem to the Haida landscape;
 - Partnered with First Peoples' Cultural Council to commission two half-hour compilations, each comprised of 10 short documentaries that showcase efforts to revitalize First Nations languages, arts, cultures and heritage and their positive impact on communities. The films will premiere on Knowledge Network's television and streaming platforms in 2024.

Arts and Culture

Declaration Act: The Arts and Culture branch is making progress on three actions under the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act). Reconciliation is supported through arts and culture actions focused on advancing public understanding of Indigenous history and cultures and developing a repatriation policy framework.

- **3.5:** Provide resources to Indigenous organizations to improve public understanding of Indigenous histories, rights, cultures, languages and the negative impacts of Indigenous-specific racism. Ongoing progress on Action 3.5 includes:
 - Seeking partnership opportunities with Indigenous organizations to create programs, policies, and funding.
 - Engaging cross ministry consultation and collaboration.
 - Articulating a renewed BC Arts Council partnership with First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) Advice/Recommendations
 - Providing Indigenous artists and arts and culture organizations with funding opportunities through BC Arts Council.
- **4.33:** Co-develop a policy framework with First Nations to support repatriation initiatives. Ongoing progress on action 4.33 includes:
 - Collaborating with FPCC to advance a co-developed repatriation framework.
 - Providing FPCC with \$750,000 toward the development of a new repatriation program that is prioritizing returning ancestral remains.
 - Engaging with Department of Canadian Heritage to discuss previous federal commitment to develop a repatriation policy.
 - Upcoming reporting in 2023 and 2024 on the results of current repatriation funding provided to FPCC in 2022.
- **4.34:** Reset the relationship between the Royal BC Museum and Indigenous Peoples in B.C. by ensuring that Indigenous voices are prioritized and inform the development of narratives, exhibitions and learning programs. Ongoing progress on action 4.34 includes:
 - RBCM is currently undertaking a robust 3-year engagement all British Columbians on the future of the museum including consultations with Indigenous communities across B.C., that began in 2022.
 - The Ministry will continue to track the engagement with the RBCM to track progress.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

- The Ministry is also working with the RBCM to advance repatriation and reconciliation efforts such as the recent Nuxalk totem pole repatriation and expediting making Indian Residential School records held with the RBCM's BC Archives accessible to Indigenous communities and researchers in partnership with MIRR.

Sport

Declaration Act: The Sport Branch has committed to one action under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act) which supports reconciliation through sport.

- **4.6:** Promote culturally relevant sport, physical activity and recreation initiatives and opportunities that increase Indigenous engagement, participation, and excellence in both traditional and mainstream sports for individuals in both urban and rural or remote areas.
 - Provide \$1.4M to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC) to support their Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Strategy and the Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport.
 - Develop collaborative partnerships with ISPARC, provincial and disability sport organizations to enhance reconciliation in the sport sector.
 - Continue funding the After School Sport and Arts initiative to support children & youth facing barriers to sport or arts participation.
 - Support Indigenous athletes to compete in Box Lacrosse at the 2022 Canada Summer Games.
 - Hire an Indigenous Youth Intern to review the Hosting BC and Major Events Programs to be more inclusive of Indigenous sport events.
 - ISPARC to develop and launch a bid process for selecting BC's candidate community to host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in B.C.
 - Expand pathways for Indigenous athletes to compete at the 2022 BC Summer Games in Prince George and the 2023 BC Winter Games in Greater Vernon.
 - Support Indigenous athletes to compete at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG).
- The Sport Branch is continuing work to implement additional actions related to the TRC Calls to Action and UNDRIP, including:
 - The Province is investing \$3.6 million to ISPARC over five years in the new RISE grant program to empower children and youth during and after government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities. RISE stands for Resilient, Inspire, Strength and Engage.
 - TACS is supporting ISPARC to develop cultural safety awareness and education in the sport sector to further support the delivery and improved access to programs and initiatives for Indigenous people.
 - The Province invested \$198,000 for the expansion of the Indigenous Sport Gallery into an interactive online experience and for translation of the gallery's content into Indigenous languages. The project will be completed in the spring of 2023 and will

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bring exciting stories and powerful history of Indigenous athletes, coaches and builders to communities and classrooms throughout the province.

- TACS is partnering with KidSport BC to expand opportunities for Indigenous children and youth who cannot afford to register in sport. The Province invests \$400,000 annually to Sport BC to fund KidSport BC. In 2019, there was a one-time investment of an additional \$2.5M for KidSport chapters around the province. This funding reached 653 Indigenous children in communities across the province.
- TACS is investing in a pilot initiative to reach more Indigenous people with disabilities. ISPARC, the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability, Disability Sport Organizations and other key stakeholders are undertaking work to identify service gaps and program delivery options.

Contact - Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors/Claire Avison, Arts and Culture/Nick Grant, Tourism

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

DRIPA ACTION PLAN

Issue: Update on *DRIPA* Action Plan Implementation for Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- My Ministry is actively working to support implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)* Action Plan in Tourism, Arts & Culture, and Sport.
- We are collaborating with our colleagues in Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) on the *DRIPA* Action Plan annual reporting process.
 - The annual reporting on the *DRIPA* Action Plan promotes transparency and accountability of our government's efforts to recognize and respect the rights of the Indigenous people in B.C.
 - Two Actions under TACS responsibility will be included in this year's annual report:
 - Related to tourism, Action 4.37 commits to providing funding to assist Indigenous tourism businesses; and
 - Related to sport, Action 4.66 commits to promoting culturally relevant sport, physical activity and recreation initiatives for Indigenous engagement and participation.
- Other areas of my Ministry are also making progress in their respective Actions and will be included in future annual reports. For example:
 - In Arts & Culture, we are advancing public understanding of Indigenous history and cultures and are co-developing a repatriation policy framework. This work included providing \$750,000 funding to First Peoples' Cultural Council to support a new repatriation grant program in December 2022.
- My Ministry will continue to demonstrate our commitment in implementing *DRIPA* Actions by working closely with MIRR and our Indigenous partners.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C.'s *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)* was introduced in 2019 and aims to align provincial laws with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
 - B.C. is the first jurisdiction in Canada to adopt UNDRIP.
 - In particular, the legislation includes a commitment to develop and implement an action plan to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration, and to prepare an annual report on the progress made on aligning laws and achieving the goals in the action plan.
- The *Declaration Act* Action Plan was released in March 2022 and includes goals and outcomes that form the long-term vision for implementing the UN Declaration in B.C.
 - It has 89 priority actions spread across all ministries.
 - The 89 actions demonstrate tangible steps that will advance B.C.'s work in key areas of the *Declaration Act* over the next five years.

Arts & Culture Actions

- **3.5: Provide resources to Indigenous organizations to improve public understanding of Indigenous histories, rights, cultures, languages and the negative impacts of Indigenous-specific racism.**
 - Reporting out in Year 3 (2024/25) and onwards, this work includes:
 - Seeking partnership opportunities with Indigenous organizations to create programs, policies and funding;
 - Engaging cross ministry consultation and collaboration; and
 - Articulating a renewed BC Arts Council partnership with First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) through upcoming partnership review.
- **4.33: Co-develop a policy framework with First Nations to support repatriation initiatives.**
 - Reporting out in Year 4 (2025/26) and onwards, this work includes:
 - Collaborating with FPCC to advance a co-developed repatriation framework.
 - Providing FPCC with \$750,000 toward the development of a new repatriation program that is prioritizing returning ancestral remains.
 - Engaging with Department of Canadian Heritage to discuss previous federal commitment to develop a repatriation policy.
 - Upcoming reporting in 2023 and 2024 on the results of current repatriation funding provided to FPCC in 2022.
- **4.34: Reset the relationship between the Royal BC Museum (RBCM) and Indigenous Peoples in B.C. by ensuring that Indigenous voices are prioritized and inform the development of narratives, exhibitions and learning programs.**
 - Reporting out in Year 5 (2026/27) and onwards, this work includes:
 - RBCM is currently undertaking a robust 3-year engagement with British Columbians on the future of the museum, including consultations with Indigenous communities across B.C..
 - The Ministry will continue to work with RBCM to track progress on the engagement.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

- The Ministry is also working with the RBCM to advance repatriation and reconciliation efforts such as the recent Nuxalk totem pole repatriation and

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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expediting making Indian Residential School records held with the RBCM's BC Archives accessible to Indigenous communities and researchers in partnership with MIRR.

Sport Actions

- **4.6: Promote culturally relevant sport, physical activity and recreation initiatives and opportunities that increase Indigenous engagement, participation, and excellence in both traditional and mainstream sports for individuals in both urban and rural or remote areas.**
 - Reporting out in Year 1 (2022/23) and onwards, this work includes:
 - Provide \$1.4M to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC) to support their Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Strategy and the Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport (funding complete);
 - Develop collaborative partnerships with ISPARC, provincial and disability sport organizations to enhance reconciliation in the sport sector (partnership formed);
 - Continue funding the After School Sport and Arts initiative to support children & youth facing barriers to sport or arts participation (funding complete);
 - Support Indigenous athletes to compete in Box Lacrosse at the 2022 Canada Summer Games (support provided. Team BC Men's won the Gold medal and the Team BC Women's won the Silver medal);
 - Hire an Indigenous Youth intern to review the Hosting BC and Major Events Programs to be more inclusive of Indigenous sport events (hired);
 - Enable ISPARC to develop and launch a bid process for selecting BC's candidate community to host the 2027 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in BC (T'kemplúps te Secwépemc has been selected by ISPARC as the B.C. candidate host community for the 2027 NAIG);
 - Expand pathways for Indigenous athletes to compete at the 2022 BC Summer Games in Prince George and the 2023 BC Winter Games in Greater Vernon (2022 – partnerships formed for Box Lacrosse and Boys' Softball. 2023 - TBC); and
 - Support Indigenous athletes to compete at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG).

Tourism Actions

- **Action 4.37: Provide funding to assist Indigenous tourism businesses that have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, to further support recovery of the Indigenous tourism sector in B.C.**
 - Reporting out in Year 1 (2022/23) and onwards, this work included:
 - \$8M in total being provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) in 2021 to deliver the BC Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund (complete).
 - This fund provided two intakes of funding to Indigenous tourism businesses (\$5M in FY 2020/21 and \$3M in FY 2021/22) for a total of 301 grants.

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- **Action 4.38: Provide investments to Indigenous Tourism B.C. to support Indigenous tourism, Indigenous job creation, preservation of Indigenous languages, celebration of Indigenous cultures and the stewardship of territories, and to tell the stories of Indigenous Peoples in B.C. in their own words.**
 - Reporting out in Year 2 (2023/24) and onwards, this work includes:
 - A one-time allocation of \$3.7M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) in January 2022 to support implementation of their Indigenous Tourism Alignment Strategy 2021-2024.
 - This investment supports the recovery of BC's Indigenous tourism sector in restoring business revenues to pre-pandemic levels, supports new or expanded Indigenous tourism business activities, and increases and enhances capacity for tourism planning in First Nation communities across the province; and
 - Government Financial Information
 - This action is on track to be completed by April 1, 2024.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport & Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Issue: Initiatives for equity, diversity and inclusion across the Ministry.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

Sport

- **The Ministry has invested in several sport initiatives that support British Columbians to participate in sport, regardless of age, gender, language, culture, ability, or socio-economic status, including:**
 - **\$3.6 million for the new RISE Grant Program to help children and youth in and from government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities. Funding can be used to cover registration, equipment, and travel expenses;**
 - **\$1.4 million to support the After School Sport and Arts Initiative which provides high quality sport, physical activity and arts opportunities at no cost and is designed specifically to address financial, cultural and transportation barriers;**
 - **\$1.4 million to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council which helps Indigenous youth participate and excel in sport; and**
 - **\$400,000 to KidSport to reduce financial barriers to children who want to play sport – particularly those from Indigenous, new Canadians and disability population groups.**
- **We also invest close to \$1 million for the BC Sport Participation Program, a bilateral program with Sport Canada that provides funding to organizations for initiatives to increase participation of underrepresented population groups.**

Creative

- **Creative BC incorporates equity, diversity, and inclusion across all of its program and services, including removing barriers to marginalized groups, implementing program targets and ensuring balanced representation in their adjudication processes.**

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- **Creative BC also encourages applications from under-represented groups through targeted outreach and engagement of diverse communities.**
- **Creative Pathways is an industry partnership helping underrepresented groups enter the motion picture industry. This year the program helped 30 participants get work on sets.**
- **In 2022, more under-represented and regional artists received support, thanks to our investment to expand music programs through Amplify BC.**
- **Knowledge Network is amplifying racialized and Indigenous filmmakers through setting measurable targets to increase commissioning and building new partnerships.**
- **In 2021/2022, this included:**
 - **Allocating financial support for a total of eight racialized and Indigenous productions;**
 - **Launching a new development initiative and providing an allocation from the Canada Media Fund envelope; and**
 - **Issuing five broadcast letters of interest to BPOC producers.**

Tourism

- **Initiatives for equity, diversity and inclusion include:**
 - **Funding Indigenous Tourism BC to support capacity building and resiliency for Indigenous tourism businesses and communities across the province;**
 - **Investing in destination development projects that enrich community well-being and economic opportunities, support Indigenous tourism development, create jobs, and help make B.C. a more accessible and inclusive tourism destination;**
 - **Supporting the development and improvement of accessible tourism products, services, and activities to ensure every person can participate in B.C.'s tourism experiences; and**

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- Integrating accessibility and inclusivity into Destination BC's consumer content, and marketing and promotional campaigns.

Arts and Culture

- With support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, we will work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.
- As well we will continue to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.
- We will continue to support provincial cultural programming such as Family Day, BC Culture Days and the After School Sport and Arts Initiative. These provide accessible, equitable, inclusive and barrier free activities at no cost to engage communities and bring all British Columbians together.
- We continue to implement the BC Arts Council's *Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024*, launched in April 2022, to support the need for stability, rebalancing and renewal across the sector while forging a more equitable and socially just role for public arts funding in the province as the sector recovers from the pandemic.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Sport

RISE Grant Program:

- The RISE Grant Program invests \$3.6M and responds to:
 - The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action #89 and #90;
 - Action 4.6 of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan.
- RISE aims to enable and promote participation and connect young people to their communities and culture, creating a positive impact in their young lives.
- The program will provide direct financial support to young people over the next five years, helping them play sports and participate in cultural activities.

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- Grants up to \$1,000 annually will help individuals cover costs for registration, equipment and travel for sport, physical and cultural activities.
- Grants up to \$10,000 are also available for organizations to develop and deliver programs for children and youth in and from care.

After School Sport and Arts Initiative (ASSAI):

- ASSAI supports the physical and mental health of children and youth in kindergarten to Grade 8 and reduces negative behaviours during unsupervised time after school.
- FY 2023/24 Budget: \$1.4 million.
- During the 2021/22 school year:
 - Over 8,400 students participated (11% increase from 7,600 students in 2020/21).
 - Of those students over 2,000 self-identified as Indigenous (a 100% increase from 2020/21) and;
 - Over 930 ASSAI students have a disability (17% increase from 2020/21).
- In 2019/20, ASSAI launched a pilot program for female high school students:
 - Three school districts (Prince George, Nanaimo, and Kamloops) are participating.
 - In school year 2021/22, over 600 teenage girls participated in ASSAI programs (50% increase over 2020/21).

KidSport BC:

- The Ministry provides \$400,000 annually to KidSport BC.
- KidSport BC is a community-based program that provides grants (up to \$400) for children 18 and under to participate in a sport season of their choice.
- In 2022, KidSport grants supported 5,251 kids (26% increase from 2021), including:
 - 3,161 male children;
 - 2,090 female children;
 - 813 Indigenous children;
 - 720 new Canadian children; and
 - 185 children with a disability.

Creative Sector

- In 2022/23, through funding from the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, Creative BC launched Creative Pathways, an industry initiative designed to increase access and workforce capacity in the motion picture industry, with streams for under-represented groups.
 - Creative BC hired a coordinator to lead the initiative and offered informational and networking sessions in addition to set work opportunities for 30 participants.
- In 2022/23, through Amplify BC, the B.C. government:
 - Invested \$150,000 to expand the Demo Recording, Music Video, and Industry Catalyst programs (formerly the Vancouver Music Fund) to under-represented musicians outside of the City of Vancouver (89 recipients total).
 - Supported the Indigenous Music Retreat for 11 participants and 5 mentors through First Peoples Cultural Council (FPCC).
- Creative BC applies an equity, diversity and inclusion lens across all programs and services by removing barriers for marginalized groups by:
 - Implementing targeted programs, applying weighted criteria & prioritization;
 - Engaging in targeted outreach and support;

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- Data collection and analysis; and,
- Ensuring representation in decision-making at various levels: board, staff, advisory committees, advisory panels, peer review.
- Creative BC also consults with industry to prioritize diverse perspectives and the inclusion of under-represented groups.
- Creative BC also advances reconciliation through its partnerships, including the \$1 million Rogers Group of Funds partnership to support Indigenous motion picture creators.
- In 2022/23, Knowledge Network:
 - Selected three projects from Indigenous, Black and People of Colour (IBPOC) filmmakers to move into development for the second year of its IBPOC Documentary Development Initiative (6 projects over three years total).
 - Announced a new collaborative documentary initiative with First Peoples' Cultural Council to commission two half-hour compilations, each comprised of 10 short documentaries that showcase efforts to revitalize First Nations languages, arts, cultures and heritage and their positive impact on communities. The films will premiere on Knowledge Network's television and streaming platforms in 2024.

Tourism Sector

- In June 2019, Destination BC launched “Toward an Inclusive and Accessible British Columbia Tourism Industry”—a three-year (2019-2021) strategic framework and action plan to build capacity within the industry, and champion meaningful tourism employment opportunities for people with disabilities. This includes:
 - Improved trip planning information on HelloBC.com with accessible tourism experiences and accessible content, including inclusive imagery;
 - Ability for tourism businesses to add accessible features to their business listings on HelloBC.com (mobility, vision, hearing, cognitive and sensory challenges);
 - New accessibility-focused learning resources to assist tourism businesses in building an understanding of accessible travel; and
 - Engaging qualified DEI experts to address DBC’s internal culture and business processes and advise on marketing practices.

Arts and Culture Sector

- The Ministry mandate letter includes several commitments that engage, uplift and celebrate the diversity of our province, while advancing equity and inclusion in the arts and culture sector, including:
 - With support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, we are working in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian museum, a South Asian Museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre;
 - Supporting the redeveloping of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, already delivering a \$25 million contribution for new child care and housing for families;
 - Continuing to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones, supporting projects that improve physical, social, and cultural accessibility to arts and cultural spaces and enhance

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access to arts and cultural spaces for underserved communities and underrepresented arts and cultural practices, and providing up to 90% of the total project budget for projects from organizations that are designated priority groups;

- Working with the Royal BC Museum to engage in a robust consultation with First Nations, British Columbians, and other stakeholders to inform next steps in the Museum's future.
- The Ministry also supports equitable and inclusive annual provincial cultural programming that celebrates diversity, such as Family Day 2023 with \$300,000, BC Culture Days 2022 with \$60,000, and ASSAI annually at \$1.4 million, all of which provide no cost opportunities for British Columbians to come together. This programming focuses on being accessible, equitable, inclusive and barrier free to engage communities and bring people together regardless of ethnicity, ability or financial barriers.
- Equity, Diversity and Access was a priority in the BC Arts Council strategic plan (2018-2022); this has been expanded and extended with the launch of Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024 which places Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Access at the centre of BC Arts Council policies and programs. Key actions to date include:
 - The implementation of an Equity Advisory Network to support policy and program development and implementation;
 - Introducing a new Equity Data Tool and Designated Priority Groups (Indigenous; Black and People of Colour; Deaf and Disability Arts; Regional Arts and Culture) policy;
 - The launch of the Accelerate program, providing \$30,000 per year for two years to eligible equity-deserving and regional organizations to support operations and capacity building; and
 - Introducing Application Assistance and Access Support funding for organizational and individual applicants from within Deaf or disability arts practices.
 - This will be continued through the next round of strategic visioning for the BC Arts Council, to take place over the next 18 months.
- In FY 2021/22, the BC Arts Council provided \$1.725M to First Peoples' Cultural Council to support their arts programs, continuing a partnership that has been in place for 25 years.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors/Claire Avison, Arts and Culture/Nick Grant, Tourism

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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CORE MESSAGING - TOURISM

Issue: Key Messages for Tourism.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **British Columbia is a world class destination and tourism is one of our province's most dynamic industries.**
- **As we continue to recover from the pandemic, we want to ensure B.C. retains its reputation as a world-class destination for British Columbians, Canadians, and international visitors.**
- **In March 2022, we released our Strategic Framework for Tourism — a roadmap for rebuilding B.C.'s visitor economy.**
- **The plan focuses on creating opportunities for people to have a better life through economic prosperity, community enhancement, sustainable growth, and climate action, all rooted in reconciliation.**
- **Over the course of the pandemic, we invested more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs.**
- **Today I am pleased to say that much of the sector has recovered. Employment levels, hotel stays, and domestic travel have all rebounded to 2019 levels.**
- **But while many businesses have seen a return to pre-pandemic levels, tourism recovery across the province remains uneven. We know that there is more work to do.**
- **As we continue our recovery together, we must take the opportunity to reflect and learn from our past successes and reimagine what B.C.'s visitor economy can look like — so that all British Columbians and their families can prosper today and in the future.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On March 1, 2019, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture (Ministry) released the Strategic Framework for Tourism in BC (Framework) – government's 3-year plan to guide year-round tourism growth to benefit people and communities, while protecting British Columbia's natural spaces.

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- On December 9, 2020, the Tourism Task Force (TTF) submitted its Final Report to government, which included several recommendations to support the sector's recovery including recommendation #7J on "increasing collaboration... to identify the changes necessary to be competitive in a global market (e.g., review of the tourism eco-system, enhanced funding models, real-time consultation, and improved business intelligence.)"
- On March 11, 2022, the Ministry released the updated Framework to reflect COVID-19 impacts and outlined government's plan for rebuilding tourism in the province.
- In response to the TTF's recommendation and to support the implementation of the Framework, the Ministry established the Tourism Renewal Initiative to engage the sector in a conversation about the future of tourism and what is needed to reimagine what tourism in B.C. can look like. Several engagement sessions were held across the province in fall 2022 and early 2023. In total over 170 individuals were engaged representing over 150 organizations. A Report on What We Heard was released on March 2, 2023 and will help inform future policy and program considerations in response to the sector's continued recovery and long-term success.
- The Province has committed more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs (including but not limited to):
 - Over a \$100 million in community-based tourism infrastructure for recovery to create jobs and spur economic development.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- Nearly \$60 million to support fairs, festivals and events in communities in B.C.
- \$36.8 million to over 80 major anchor attractions and tour bus operators.
- Nearly \$5 million disbursed for fixed costs to help large accommodation providers, and tenure and park permit holders.
- \$1.33 million in funding to support regional HR specialists to provide expert advice to tourism operators in each region.
- \$8 million to support the restart of the business event market.
- Over \$11 million to Destination BC (over three years) to bolster the rebound of B.C.'s international marketing efforts.
- We heard from many tourism businesses that 2022 had many signs of strong recovery. Positive signs include:
 - B.C.'s hotel and accommodation occupancy rate continued to pace ahead of the same period in 2023 (+8 points) as in 2019 (+2 points).
 - In 2022, YVR welcomed 19 million passengers up 168% from 2021 and pacing at 72% of 2019 levels (Source: YVR data tables).
 - Vancouver welcomed the return of 306 cruise ships, bringing over 800 thousand visitors.
 - Employment levels are at 195,000 full time employed for Accommodation and food services.
 - Overall tourism revenue for 2021 was \$13.5 billion, up 22.7% over 2020, but still down - 33.5% from 2019 (Source: DBC 2021 Value of Tourism).

Contact - Nick Grant, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE KEY FACTS AND STATISTICS (+ SECTOR OVERVIEW)

Issue: Key facts and statistics for the tourism sector.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Tourism is a key pillar of StrongerBC – B.C.’s Economic Plan.**
- **Tourism contributes significantly to employment across all regions of the province and is a source of significant government revenue (taxes) and GDP.**
- **The tourism industry was among the hardest hit by the pandemic.**
- **Pre-pandemic Tourism contributed more than \$22 billion in annual revenue to the provincial economy.**
- **The tourism sector directly employed about one out of every eight British Columbians prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- **We’ve heard from many B.C. tourism businesses that there are many signs of strong recovery. Positive signs include:**
 - **In the first nine months of 2022, the B.C. tourism sector accounted for approximately 12% of the total employment in B.C., higher than the national tourism industry average of 10%.**
 - **The number of active tourism businesses recovered to 12,994 in 2022, from 11,818 in 2020 compared to 13,183 in 2019.**
 - **Average hourly wage increased by 13% in 2021 and by 16% in 2022 as compared to 2019.**
 - **The average hourly wage increased from \$20.80 in 2019 to \$23.00 in 2020, \$23.50 in 2021 and \$24.11 in 2022.**
 - **August and September 2022 were the first two months since the onset of the pandemic in which B.C. tourism employment levels have been higher than those experienced in 2019.**
 - **Tourism accounted for 1.9% of total provincial GDP in 2021. (Note: there is data lag for 2022 revenue #'s).**
 - **The tourism industry contributed \$5.0 billion to GDP (in 2012 constant dollars) in 2021. This is an increase of +22.8% over 2020.**

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- The tourism industry earned \$13.5 billion in revenue in 2021, representing an increase of +22.7% over 2020.
- In 2021, the tourism industry paid \$3.5 billion in wages and salaries, up +25.3% over 2020.
- Forecasted employment in the B.C. tourism sector (overall) is projected to grow at a compounded annual rate of 3.7% over the four-year period between 2021-2025.
- We know not every business has fully recovered but we are well on our way. And we will continue to work closely with the sector to ensure we can build back even better than before.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Tourism is one of B.C.'s key economic sectors, that contributed the largest added value to the B.C. economy between 2011 and 2019 relative to other primary resource industries, such as mining and quarrying, oil and gas extraction, agriculture and fishing, and forestry and logging.
- The tourism sector directly employed about one out of every eight British Columbians prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, with tourism contributing a significant and growing source of employment across all regions of the province.
- In 2020, COVID-19 had a greater economic impact on tourism than other primary resource industries.
- In 2021, B.C.'s tourism industry had one of the strongest rates of recovery (up +22.8% over 2020) compared to other primary resource industries in B.C., with tourism contributing more than oil and gas extraction (\$4.5b; up +5.5%) and agriculture and fishing (\$3.3b; up +1.7%).
- Destination BC's (DBC) Corporate Strategy and Marketing Plan, and the *Super, Natural British Columbia*® brand are designed to ensure B.C. is positioned for success, and to keep growing this critical component of the provincial economy in a globally competitive environment.
- Our Ministry's *Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022–2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency*, provides a roadmap for rebuilding British Columbia's visitor economy to be more resilient, sustainable, and innovative as we look toward a brighter future for tourism in B.C.

Tourism GDP & Revenue:

- Tourism accounted for 1.9% of total provincial GDP in 2021.
- The tourism industry contributed \$5.0 billion to GDP (in 2012 constant dollars) in 2021. This is an increase of +22.8% over 2020.
- GDP of the B.C. economy increased +6.2% over 2020.

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- In 2021, the tourism industry earned \$13.5 billion in revenue. This represents an increase of +22.7% over 2020, but a decrease of -33.5% from 2019, the last year before the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry.

Tourism Employment:

- In 2022, the B.C. tourism sector accounted for approximately 12% of the total employment in B.C., higher than the national tourism industry average of 10%.
- Prior to the pandemic, sector employment increased at an annual growth rate of 1.9% from 2012 to 2019, rising from an average of 304,000 employees per month in 2012 to 348,000 in 2019.
- For the first nine months in 2022, the average monthly employment levels (322,472 employees per month) remained below pre-pandemic levels.
- August and September 2022 were the first two months since the onset of the pandemic in which B.C. tourism employment levels have been higher than those experienced in 2019.
- The impact of the pandemic on employment varies by industry. While overall employment in the tourism sector was down 7% in 2022 relative to 2019, the percentage varies from growth of 12% in recreation and entertainment to losses of 41% in the travel services industry.
- Forecasted employment in the B.C. tourism sector (overall) is projected to grow at a compounded annual rate of 3.7% over the four-year period between 2021-2025.

Wages

- In 2022, the average hours worked were almost back to 2019 levels.
- Most sectors, except for food and beverage services have experienced an increase in average hours per week relative to 2019 which also reflect difficulties in filling positions (i.e., existing workers are asked to work more hours).
- Overall, the average hourly wage in B.C.'s tourism sector increased during the pandemic.
- Average hourly wage increased by 13% in 2021 and by 16% in 2022 as compared to 2019.
- The average hourly wage increased from \$20.80 in 2019 to \$23.00 in 2020, \$23.50 in 2021 and \$24.11 in 2022.
- The increase in wages is attributable to three factors:
 - An increase in average wage per position (including entry level positions);
 - Changes in the average level of experience within positions (e.g., more experienced workers tend to receive higher wages); and
 - Changes in the distribution of positions within the sector. For example, the sector had fewer entry level positions during the pandemic and, as a result, higher paid staff accounted for a greater percentage of sector employment.

BC Tourism Sector vs Total Employment, 2022

Employment	British Columbia	Canada
Tourism	322,472	1,859,806
Overall Employment	2,737,444	19,523, 917
Percentage Tourism of Overall Employment	11.8%	9.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey via Real Remote Access.

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- B.C.'s tourism sector employed an average of 322,472 employees through the first nine months of 2022, of whom 44% were employed in food and beverage services, 31% in recreation and entertainment, 14% in transportation, 9% in accommodation and 3% in the travel services industry.
- Including both employed and unemployed individuals (i.e., those whose most recent job was in tourism), the labor force for the tourism sector averaged 335,278 through the first nine months of 2022. Unemployment averaged 3.9%.
- In 2021, the tourism industry paid \$3.5 billion in wages and salaries, up +25.3% over 2020.

Tourism Businesses:

- The number of active tourism businesses recovered to 12,994 in 2022, from 11,818 in 2020 compared to 13,183 in 2019.

Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT):

- Tourism generated \$1.4 billion in provincial and municipal tax revenue in 2021, an increase of +28.9% from 2020.

Estimated Room Revenue (based on Municipal and Regional District Tax communities):

- Estimated room revenue increased +42.6% from 2020, representing a total of \$2.1 billion of room revenue in 2021.

Tourism Statistics:

- As of October 2022 year, to date, there were 2.85 million international travellers who entered British Columbia, which was a 572.4% increase over 2021 and yet -50.2% below 2019 totals.

Contact: Nick Grant, Tourism Sector Strategy

Attached: Methodology notes of importance

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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Notes on Data Sources:

- 2022 B.C. Labour Market data and employment projections are based on the first nine months of 2022 and are provided by Tourism HR Canada's British Columbia report (<https://tourismhr.ca/wp-content/uploads/BC-Provincial-Report.pdf>) that draws on information from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, from surveys and reports commissioned by Tourism HR Canada including employment projections developed by the Conference Board of Canada.
- Preliminary estimates of the economic contribution of tourism to BC's economy in 2021 were produced by BC Stats and have been reviewed by Destination BC (DBC).
- BC Stats' tourism statistics program is supported and partly funded by DBC. The data included in this document is provided by BC Stats under a MOU with DBC.
- A time-lag for tourism economic estimates is seen each year (e.g., 2021 estimates are available early in 2023) as a result of availability of complete annual business data, as well as processing and review time.
- Data provided by BC Stats includes 2021 tourism generated GDP, tourism sector revenue, provincial/municipal tax revenue, the number of businesses directly providing services to visitors, employment information, and wages and salaries.
- The data included in this document is summarized in the 2021 Value of Tourism Snapshot which will be published on DBC's website.
- BC Stats uses a BC Input-Output model, based on the Statistics Canada Supply-Use Tables. As needed, adjustments are made to the model and revised data released by Statistics Canada is incorporated on an annual basis. As such, the tourism economic performance indicators published in 2023 should not be compared to the values published prior as updates have been applied retrospectively. More detail on the adjustments and revised data releases are noted below. * / ***

*Overall Methodology Note:

Several updates occurred for various input data sources, resulting in retrospective adjustments to BC's tourism economic performance indicators. Updates include:

- Updated Input-Output data for 2019 replaced 2019 estimated data, which was calculated last year. This impacted all data by commodity from 2019 onward.
- Statistics Canada's Fisher price series for 2017 to 2021 was updated; the update especially impacted domestic tourism.
- Updated AirDNA data resulted in some changes from 2018 onwards.
- Various other data points were updated to better reflect specific commodities, as well as interpolation adjustments between 2014 and 2017.

**Employment Note:

Tourism employment and wage estimates are generated using a BC Input-Output model, based on the Statistics Canada Supply-Use Tables. The employment and wage data follow strict national accounting principles, and include gratuities and compensation in lieu of wages, among other items. This approach produces an estimate of jobs and full-time equivalents (FTEs) to represent the theoretical number of full-time employees if total hours worked by all full-time and part-time workers were exclusively by full-time employees. The number of employees is based on the number of FTEs due to spending by tourism. This definition traces tourist spending and estimates how many jobs that spending creates. This is different from the number of employees in the tourism and hospitality sector which does not separate tourist spending from resident spending, but rather counts the total number of employees in the hospitality sector, regardless of the customer (tourist versus resident).

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***Businesses Note:

The number of tourism-related businesses in BC is prepared and provided by BC Stats based on Statistics Canada's Business Register data. As the number of tourism-related businesses are documented at two points in time throughout the year (June and December), any variation of businesses classified as active throughout the year is not fully captured. Similar to previous years, the 2021 tourism business value is represented by December data.

The value for active tourism businesses continues to include many businesses that closed in the months (and potentially year) prior. Once those businesses have permanently come to an end and closeout procedures are completed and confirmed, they will cease to be included as active businesses.

In 2022/2023, BC Stats redefined the identification of tourism businesses to align with Statistics Canada's Tourism Satellite Account. The use of NAICS codes to identify tourism sectors are now consistent. The tourism business data published in 2023 should not be compared to values published prior as adjustments have been applied retrospectively.

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STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR TOURISM

Issue: An update on the Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024: *A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency*.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- In spring 2022, my ministry released the new ‘refreshed’ Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency – government’s roadmap for rebuilding tourism in the province.
- The updated Framework was developed in collaboration with our industry partners and reflects the impacts on the sector that resulted from the pandemic.
- The Framework also sets a strategic plan moving forward under the pillars of people, planet, and prosperity.
- In 2023, my ministry will report publicly on the progress of the Framework. The report will include an update on key actions to support the tourism industry on our path towards a more resilient future.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- There are no fiscal impacts linked directly to the Tourism Framework Progress Report.
- On March 1, 2019, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture (Ministry) released the Strategic Framework for Tourism in BC – government’s 3-year plan to guide year-round tourism growth to benefit people and communities, while protecting British Columbia’s natural spaces.
- On December 9, 2020, the Tourism Task Force (TTF) submitted its Final Report to government, which included a recommendation to update the Strategic Framework to reflect the new operating environment that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic and to identify opportunities to support mid-term recovery and long-term resiliency for the tourism industry.
- In response to the TTF’s recommendation, the Ministry embarked on a targeted engagement plan with industry partners and key ministries with shared tourism priorities, to inform the new Strategic Framework.
- On March 11, 2022, the Ministry released the updated Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency (Framework), government’s roadmap for rebuilding tourism in the province.

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- The Framework is also strongly aligned with the StrongerBC Economic Plan (e.g., focus, priorities, branding, language) and is a fundamental part of our province's economic recovery from the pandemic.
- The Framework outlines priorities and concrete actions under three equally important objectives: People, Planet and Prosperity. The main priorities of each objective is summarized in the table below. Each priority is supported by specific actions.

People: Tourism supports healthy, inclusive societies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support communities in rebuilding and enhancing their visitor economies. • Support true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through tourism. • Continue to support the tourism sector in becoming more inclusive and accessible.
Planet: Harness Opportunities for Tourism to Contribute to a Clean Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a cleaner tourism industry that is prepared to adapt to climate change. • Support responsible travel and preservation of BC's natural spaces.
Prosperity: Sustainable Growth of the Visitor Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build back a strong and diverse tourism workforce. • Invest in BC's competitive advantages in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era through destination management. • Attract visitors during all four seasons and to more regions of the province to share the benefits of tourism with everyone in B.C.

- The Ministry is committed to publicly releasing a progress report this spring (approximately one year after the release of the Framework).
- The progress report provides an update on the priorities and actions under each of the Framework's three objectives (People, Planet and Prosperity). To achieve this, the report highlights a few key deliverables under each action both within the Ministry (e.g., recovery funding initiatives) and across other ministries with shared tourism priorities (e.g., CleanBC actions, Emergency Management initiatives).
- The progress report also sets the context for where the tourism industry is at, one year after the release of the Framework. This includes a shift into planning for a post-pandemic environment that acknowledges the challenges the sector continues to experience (e.g., climate-related natural disasters, global inflation, lasting impacts of the pandemic, labour and housing shortages, etc.).

Contact - Nick Grant, ADM, Tourism Sector Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

TOURISM RELIEF & RECOVERY INITIATIVES – THREE YEAR PLAN

Issue: Overview of the Tourism Recovery Initiatives Action Plan Funding.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Since day one, our government has been working closely with people in the tourism industry to understand the challenges, hear their suggestions on recovery and provide supports.**
- **We have committed more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs.**
 - **More than \$250 million to support tourism business recovery.**
 - **\$53 million in community-based tourism infrastructure for recovery, to create jobs and spur economic development.**
 - **More than \$11 million for Indigenous Tourism BC, one of the fastest growing sectors of the industry.**
 - **\$36.8 million to over 80 major anchor attractions and tour bus operators.**
 - **Nearly \$30 million to support 680 fairs, festivals and events in 134 communities throughout B.C. with an additional \$30 million announced to support the events sector.**
 - **Up to \$15 million for fixed costs to help large accommodation providers, and tenure and park permit holders.**
- **We heard from many tourism businesses that 2022 had many signs of strong recovery.**
- **We know not every business has fully recovered but we are well on our way. And we will continue to work closely with the sector to ensure we can build back even better than before.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Since day one, our government has been working closely with people in the tourism industry to understand the challenges, hear their suggestions on recovery and provide supports.
- We have committed more than half a billion dollars in support to the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs.
 - More than \$250 million to support tourism business recovery.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- \$53 million in community-based tourism infrastructure for recovery, to create jobs and spur economic development.
- More than \$11 million for Indigenous Tourism BC, one of the fastest growing sectors of the industry.
- \$36.8 million to over 80 major anchor attractions and tour bus operators.
- Nearly \$30 million to support 680 fairs, festivals and events in 134 communities throughout B.C., with an additional \$30 million announced to support the events sector.
- Up to \$15 million for fixed costs to help large accommodation providers, and tenure and park permit holders.
- We heard from many tourism businesses that 2022 had many signs of strong recovery. Positive signs include:
 - B.C.'s hotel and accommodation occupancy rate continued to pace ahead of the same period in 2021 (+8 points) and ahead of the same period in 2019 (+2 points).
 - YVR anticipated 17 million passengers by the end of the year (2022) and the single biggest increase of travellers in the airports 90-year history.
 - Between January and August 2022 - YVR welcomed nearly 11.9 million passengers up 286% from the same period in 2021 and pacing over 70% of 2019 levels.
 - And after a two-year hiatus, Vancouver welcomed the return of 306 cruise ships, bringing over 800 thousand visitors.
- We know not every business has fully recovered but we are well on our way. And we will continue to work closely with the sector to ensure we can build back even better than before.
- Budget 2022 provided an additional \$25 million for the tourism sector to help support a full recovery.
- Our government announced further relief funding with a commitment of \$30 million towards destination development efforts across the province.
- In March 2022, the Ministry launched a new three-year strategic plan.
- The *Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency* is based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force and the Tourism Sector Recovery Roundtable.
- The plan focuses on creating opportunities for people to have a better life through economic prosperity, community enhancement, sustainable growth and climate action, rooted in reconciliation.

Tourism Recovery Initiatives (\$74M)	FY20/21 (\$M)
Community Destination Management Organization Relief Grants	\$ 10.00
Tourism Sector Associations Relief Funding (provided by DBC)	\$ 0.40
Visitor Centre Funding for health & safety measures (provided by DBC)	\$ 0.13
Tourism Resiliency Network Funding (via grant to RDMOs)	\$ 0.60
Community Tourism Infrastructure: Tourism Dependent Communities Fund	\$ 19.40

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Community Tourism Infrastructure: Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiatives Fund (via grants to RDMOs)	\$ 13.60
Community Tourism Infrastructure: Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program, destination development stream (CERIP 1.0 – Destination Development)	\$ 20.00
Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund Part 1 (via grant to ITBC)	\$ 5.00
Domestic Marketing Funding for Destination BC	\$ 5.00
BSAFE COVID-19 Safety Certificate Program (via direct grant to go2HR)	\$ 0.24
Total	\$ 74.37

Tourism Recovery Initiatives (\$120M)	FY21/22 (\$M)
BC Major Anchor Attractions Program	\$ 36.80
BC Fairs, Festivals and Events Fund	\$ 30.00
CERIP 2.0 – Destination Development	\$ 21.30
Tourism Accommodation and Commercial Recreation Relief Fund	\$ 15.00
Regional HR Specialists (via direct grant to go2HR)	\$ 1.33
Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund Part 2 (via grant to ITBC)	\$ 3.00
Indigenous Tourism Alignment Strategy (via grant to ITBC)	\$ 3.70
Business Events and Conferences Restart Fund (intake 1)	\$ 5.00
Destination BC international marketing funds	\$ 4.00
Total	\$ 120.13

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Tourism Recovery Initiatives (\$67M)	FY22/23 (\$M)
BC Fairs, Festivals and Events Fund	\$ 30.00
Destination Development Fund \$30 M announced. (*\$15 M in 22/23 and \$15 M in 23/24)	\$ 30.00*
Business Events and Conferences Restart Fund (intake 2) Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	\$ 3.00
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications	
Total	\$ 67.50

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE TOURISM SECTOR PRIORITIES – OVERVIEW

Issue: Overview of the Tourism Sector Priorities.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- As we shift into planning for the post-pandemic era, we understand the tourism industry continues to experience significant challenges – from climate related natural disasters, global inflation, labour and housing shortages, the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and many others. In response, our government has engaged with industry partners to understand these challenges, hear their suggestions, and provide relief measures.
- We have committed more than half a billion dollars in support of the tourism sector through a wide variety of programs providing funding for tourism business recovery, community based tourism infrastructure, Indigenous Tourism BC, major anchor attractions, & fairs, festivals, and events.
- In March 2022, the Ministry launched a new three-year strategic plan. The Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency is based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force and the Tourism Sector Recovery Roundtable and focuses on creating opportunities for people to have a better life through economic prosperity, community enhancement, sustainable growth and climate action, rooted in reconciliation.
- My priority is the sustained recovery of the tourism industry and we will continue to work alongside our colleagues and key partners to rebuild a more sustainable and resilient industry for future generations.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Existing tourism priorities include:

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Priority	Detail
Destination Development	Partnering with Destination BC to develop long term strategy to support the supply side of tourism.
Business Events	Recovery fund awarded to certain CDMOs to attract business events, conferences and exhibitions to the Province.
Tourism Events Program	Supports events and festivals across the province with a high tourism value by providing funding for marketing efforts.
Workforce	Work collaboratively across industry and government to identify and address current workforce challenges in the tourism sector.
Adventure Tourism	Supporting Lands Branch in the Ministry of Forests to address adventure tourism policy for tourism businesses operating on crown land.
Emergency Preparedness / Response	Co-lead with Tourism Industry Association of BC and a provincial Tourism Emergency Management Committee to implement the Tourism Emergency Management Framework.
Climate Action / Clean growth	Participate in the Climate Action and Preparedness Working Group to implement actions identified in the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy; work with industry to improve clean industry.
Accessibility / Inclusiveness	Consider accessibility, diversity and inclusiveness objectives in funding programs.
Hotel	Work with industry and Pavco to consider policy environment to encourage more investment in hotel development in Greater Vancouver.

- Multiple funding programs have been delivered to support each of the above priorities:
Core Funding Programs:
 - The Resort Municipality Initiative - \$13 million annually to 14 Resort Municipalities for tourism infrastructure and visitor service projects.
 - The Tourism Events Program - \$4.8 million in funding in 2022 to support event marketing efforts.StrongerBC and Tourism Recovery Initiatives Funding
 - Tourism Dependent Communities – \$19.4 million to 33 municipalities for 46 tourism infrastructure projects.
 - Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program - \$41.3 million to 106 projects to support the development, conservation, repair, or rehabilitation of community-based tourism infrastructure and amenities.
 - Targeted Regional Tourism Destination Initiative – \$13.6 million in funding to B.C.’s six tourism regions to establish development initiatives through community partnerships.
 - Indigenous Tourism Fund - More than \$11 million for Indigenous Tourism BC, one of the fastest growing sectors of the industry.
 - BC Major Anchor Attractions - \$36.9 million to over 80 major anchor attractions and tour bus operators.
 - BC Fairs, Festivals, and Events Recovery Fund – 2021 \$30 million to support 680 fairs, festivals and events in 134 communities throughout B.C. 2023 relaunched fund, adjudication underway, results by mid April.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- Business Events and Conferences Restart Fund - \$8 million to restart business travel.
- Destination Development – \$30 million to support the development and rejuvenation of tourism infrastructure and assets.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE NEW TOURISM MANDATE PRIORITIES

Issue: Overview of Eco-Tourism and Agri-Tourism Priorities.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Our Government’s priorities are to build a secure, low emission, sustainable economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether you live in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community.**
- **Tourism is an essential part of our work to make life better for people.**
- **Thousands of B.C. families rely on jobs in tourism and our government is committed to supporting continued growth and sustainability of this vital sector.**
- **The mandate letters issued to me and the Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism call for us to work together and across government in two new particular areas – to expand agri-tourism and promote eco-tourism.**
- **These mandate commitments align with Strategic Framework for Tourism launched by my Ministry in March 2022.**
- **I am committed to working with my Ministry, the Parliamentary Secretary, and Ministers of Agriculture and Food and Public Safety and Solicitor General, among others, on a plan to advance these priorities.**
- **Our government is putting people and planet first and bringing the tourism sector together around a shared vision for a more sustainable, prosperous, and resilient sector – all rooted in reconciliation.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The December 7, 2022, mandate letter to Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Brittny Anderson instructed her to work with Minister Popham to help advance these shared responsibilities:
 - Work with the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport and community stakeholders to support the development of rural tourism opportunities.
 - **NEW:** With support from the Ministers of Agriculture and Food and Public Safety and Solicitor General, lead work to expand agri-tourism in consultation with food producers, wineries, breweries, distilleries, and farm-to-gate cannabis producers.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- Lead work with the hospitality industry to ensure B.C. is ready to welcome tourists during upcoming marquee sporting events.
- **NEW:** Work across government to identify opportunities to promote British Columbia's conservation initiatives through eco-tourism.
- Although the agri-tourism and eco-tourism priorities are considered new mandate priorities, the intent of both were already captured under the three-year strategic plan launched by the ministry in March 2022.
- The *Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency*, focuses on creating opportunities for people to have a better life through economic prosperity, community enhancement, sustainable growth and climate action, rooted in reconciliation.
- Both new priorities are captured under the “Planet” pillar, to “Support responsible travel and preservation of B.C.’s natural spaces”, including:
 - Support sustainable recovery and environmental stewardship in adventure and agri-tourism, and integrate historic places and mountain resorts in modern land use planning.
 - Encourage safe, responsible, and respectful outdoor recreation.
 - Educate visitors about responsible travel to uphold B.C. values like respect for Indigenous cultures, wildlife, and wilderness.
- TACS staff in the Tourism Sector Strategy Division are in the process of researching opportunities and engaging across government to create workplans to advance both of the new mandate priorities.

What’s already happening:

Agri-Tourism

- There is a broad array of agri-tourism activities already taking place in B.C. such as farm markets, u-pick, events/festivals on farmland, winery tours, petting zoos, corn mazes etc.
- Destination BC’s Co-op Marketing Program supports initiatives like the BC Ale Trail, Farmers’ Market Trail, Wine Growers of B.C., and other marketing collaborations.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Food’s Buy BC marketing campaign drives consumers to the Buy BC logo and supports retail/restaurant partnerships, promotional activities and events that connect business and consumers with agri-tourism producers.
- Cannabis tourism is in its infancy due to strict federal and provincial regulations, but the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General recently launched a new cannabis retail licence that allows for eligible federally licensed cannabis producers to sell non-medical cannabis products at their cultivation site – i.e. farm gate sales.

Eco-Tourism

- The Ministry assists across government in the development and review of legislation, regulatory and operational policies that relate to eco-tourism and adventure tourism.
- It also works closely with the Adventure Tourism Coalition.
- The Ministry participates in provincial land-use planning and cross-government conservation-focused committees, including Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) Management, Coastal Marine Strategy, Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy, Trail Advisory Board, Watershed Security Strategy etc.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- All six B.C. tourism regions have the UN Sustainable Development Goals incorporated into their tourism plans. Two of these goals are conservation-related.
- The five tourism regions are Biosphere Certified Destinations, issued through the Responsible Tourism Institute and aligned with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris COP21 Accord to Fight Climate Change.

Contact – Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE INDIGENOUS TOURISM

Issue: Support for the Indigenous Tourism sector.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Indigenous tourism is a key part of B.C.'s tourism sector, which was among the hardest-hit industries by the pandemic.**
- **That is why, since the beginning of the pandemic, our government has worked with Indigenous partners to provide StrongerBC programs and other funding supports to help the sector recover and build resiliency.**
- **These funding supports have also helped Indigenous communities to exercise their rights and create their own paths forward in Indigenous tourism.**
- **Some recent joint initiatives delivered through Indigenous Tourism BC include \$3.7M in capacity building funding, \$8M in recovery funding for Indigenous tourism businesses,** Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People
- **Our government also recently signing a refreshed accord with ITBC to make a firm commitment to indigenous tourism, the sharing of cultures, and reconciliation.**
- **These commitments are a foundational element to our Strategic Framework for Tourism in BC, to support true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous people through tourism.**
- **We remain committed to working alongside Indigenous partners and communities to support Indigenous tourism throughout the province.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Supporting the recovery and development of Indigenous tourism in BC has been a key focus of the tourism sector over the past few years.
- Based on recommendations from the Tourism Task Force in late 2020, the Province has allocated a total of \$8M delivered through two intakes of relief funding to Indigenous tourism businesses. This funding was administered through Indigenous Tourism BC.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- In addition, Indigenous communities in BC have received over \$28M to support recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These projects were supported by StrongerBC programs such as the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP), Tourism Dependent Communities Program, and Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiative.
- In January 2022, \$3.7M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) to support implementation of their 3-year Alignment Strategy, *Indigenous Tourism Alignment Strategy 2021-2024- Pulling Together for Recovery*. The Strategy focuses on alignment of Indigenous, provincial, regional, and federal efforts to accelerate Indigenous success in tourism and support pandemic recovery.
- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People
- **Declaration Act:** The tourism branch has committed to two actions under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act) which support reconciliation through tourism.
 - **Action 4.37:** Provide funding to assist Indigenous tourism businesses that have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to further support recovery of the Indigenous tourism sector in B.C. **Result:** A total of \$8M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) from 2021 to 2022 to deliver the BC Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund.
 - **Action 4.38:** Provide investments to Indigenous Tourism B.C. to support Indigenous tourism, Indigenous job creation, preservation of Indigenous languages, celebration of Indigenous cultures and the stewardship of territories, and to tell the stories of Indigenous Peoples in B.C. in their own words. **Result:** A one-time allocation of \$3.7M was provided to Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) in January 2022 to support implementation of their *Indigenous Tourism Alignment Strategy 2021-2024*.
- **Indigenous Tourism Accord:** In December 2022, the Indigenous Tourism Accord was renewed and signed between the Ministry and Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC).
- The Accord builds on the long-standing relationship between ITBC and the Province and aims to strengthen collaboration on Indigenous tourism development across British Columbia. It also reaffirms the provincial government's commitments made under the Declaration Act.
- **Strategic Framework:** A key priority of the newly updated *Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency* is to support true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous people through tourism.
- Under the Framework, there are two main actions that help prioritize and guide the tourism sector to support meaningful reconciliation:
 - Work with Indigenous partners to preserve and promote living cultures and rich heritage of Indigenous peoples, if and how they determine it would benefit their community.
 - Following the principle of self-determination, support Indigenous communities to develop new tourism experiences and recover from the pandemic.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Issue: Sustainability Efforts for the Tourism Sector in B.C.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Our government is committed to supporting the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable tourism industry that is prepared to adapt to climate change.
- The intent of this is captured under the three-year Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022 – 2024: A Plan for Recovery and Resiliency.
- Tourism stakeholders throughout the province are committed to a resilient and sustainable industry. In fact, all six tourism regional management organizations use the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to guide their tourism development plans. They also provide support for communities and businesses with adaptation measures to reduce impacts.
- My ministry is participating in the cross-government Climate Action and Preparedness Working Group to implement actions identified in the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy.
- We are also supporting the sector to prepare for and respond to natural disasters by working with tourism stakeholders to implement actions identified in the Tourism Emergency Management Framework.
- My Ministry has provided support for many sustainability initiatives through several funding programs, including the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program and the Resort Municipality Initiative.
- Our government is putting people and the planet first and bringing the tourism sector together around a shared vision for a more sustainable prosperous, and resilient sector – all rooted in reconciliation.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- Sustainability and climate adaptation are key priorities for the tourism sector in B.C., with significant investments by destination management organizations and businesses happening throughout the province.
- Sustainable tourism takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities.
- There is growing demand in consumption patterns and motivations favoring quality sustainable experiences, and B.C. is well placed to continue to advance its sustainable tourism achievements.
- The Strategic Framework for Tourism 2022-2024 (the Framework) supports a vision to build a strong, sustainable tourism sector that benefits all British Columbians and aligns tourism with the direction and objectives of Clean BC.
- Actions in the Framework that support climate action and sustainability include:
 - Collaborate with partners to identify climate risks and develop tools to respond;
 - Encourage partners to adopt common sustainability policies and practices;
 - Support sustainable recovery and environmental stewardship in adventure and agri-tourism, and integrate historic places and mountain resorts in modern land use planning;
 - Encourage safe, responsible, and respectful outdoor recreation; and
 - Educate visitors about responsible travel to uphold B.C. values like respect for indigenous cultures, wildlife, and wilderness.

Tourism Sector Initiatives

- Five tourism regions in B.C. are Biosphere certified through the Responsible Tourism Institute, an international certification body aligned with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris COP21 Accord to Fight Climate Change. It includes a commitment program to advance sustainability for tourism industry stakeholders.
- Some regions are also working with third-party sustainability consultants to measure and evaluate carbon footprints of the operators and the region.
- The Vancouver Island tourism region is the first destination in North America to perform a carbon audit and develop a decarbonization plan for the destination.
- B.C. is also home to the only sustainability-focused tourism conference in North America. IMPACT, Sustainability Travel and Tourism, was started by B.C. stakeholders, is international in scope, and continues to be held in Victoria annually.
- The Ministry is focused on identifying how to elevate and support this work.

Sustainability Initiatives

- Projects supported by the Ministry that advance sustainability (FY 2020/21 – FY 2023/24):

	<u>Projects</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program	23	\$12,981,381
Tourism Dependent Community	6	\$3,558,837
Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiative	5	\$1,452,293
Resort Municipality Initiative	51	\$22,123,220
Total	85	\$40,115,731

Contact – Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

DESTINATION BC OVERVIEW

Issue: Destination BC Crown Corporation.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Destination BC (DBC) is a Provincially funded, industry-led Crown corporation that supports a strong and competitive future for B.C.'s tourism industry through a combination of global marketing, destination development, industry learning, cooperative community-based programs, and visitor services.
- DBC has a mandate to market British Columbia domestically, nationally, and internationally as a tourist destination; and to promote the development and growth of the tourism industry in British Columbia to increase revenue, employment, and the economic benefits generated by the industry.
- DBC's programs strengthen B.C.'s worldwide reputation under the *Super, Natural British Columbia*® brand, as a destination of choice.
- DBC continues to actively work with industry partners including Regional Destination Marketing Organizations, Communities, and Indigenous partners and key stakeholders regionally, nationally, and internationally to support the ongoing efforts towards the successful sustained recovery of the tourism sector in B.C.
- DBC's programs, investments, and marketing approach are aligned with the *Strategic Framework for Tourism in B.C.*, and other emerging Government priorities.

KEY FACTS

Statutory Authority: Destination BC Corp. Act.

Type of Organization: Crown Corporation

Appointment Process: Order in Council

Purpose of Crown:

Destination BC has a mandate to:

- Market British Columbia domestically, nationally, and internationally as a tourist destination; and,
- Promote the development and growth of the tourism industry in British Columbia to increase revenue and employment in, and the economic benefits generated by the industry.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

Background/Status:

- Established on November 2, 2012, under the Business Corporations Act and continuing as a statutory Crown corporation pursuant to the Destination BC Corp. Act.
- Destination BC Corp. (DBC) is wholly owned by the Province of British Columbia and commenced operations on April 1, 2013.
- Destination BC is a Provincially funded, industry-led Crown corporation that supports a strong and competitive future for B.C.'s tourism industry through a combination of global marketing, destination development, industry learning, cooperative community-based programs, and visitor servicing.
- Destination British Columbia's programs and investments, including its Pandemic Response, Recovery, and Resilience marketing approach, are aligned with the Strategic Framework for Tourism in B.C., and other emerging Government priorities.
- Destination BC continues to actively work with industry partners including Regional Destination Marketing Organizations, Communities, and Indigenous partners and key stakeholders regionally, nationally, and internationally to support the ongoing efforts towards the successful recovery of the tourism sector in B.C.

Client Profile:

- Visitors from British Columbia, across Canada, and around the world.
- Tourism businesses, sectors, and associations (accommodation, attractions, and experience providers).
- Communities throughout the province.
- Indigenous Communities and Indigenous Tourism BC, Regional and City/Community Destination Marketing Organizations, Federal counterparts and associations, provincial and municipal institutions, and ministries.

2023/24 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

Marketing:

- Destination BC's programs help to improve the visitor experience, support businesses and communities across the province, and strengthen B.C.'s worldwide reputation under the Super, Natural British Columbia® brand, as a destination of choice.
- Destination BC continues to build its capacity and resources in digital marketing, industry training, destination development, and support for Regional Destination Management Organizations, Indigenous Tourism BC, and co-op marketing partners.
- Destination BC's new three-year Corporate Strategy (March 2023), related Global Marketing and Destination Management Strategies, and the *Super, Natural British Columbia*® brand all align with Destination BC's purpose, as articulated in the Destination BC Corp. Act.
- Destination BC's 2023-2026 corporate strategy and programs will focus on:
 - Reducing seasonality and regional disparity by growing the tourism economy across all regions of BC and in all seasons;
 - Enabling more tourism organizations and businesses to access technologies, marketing channels, planning tools, data, insights, and training that are otherwise only available to large businesses and organizations;
 - Supporting Indigenous Peoples, communities and Nations through tourism.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

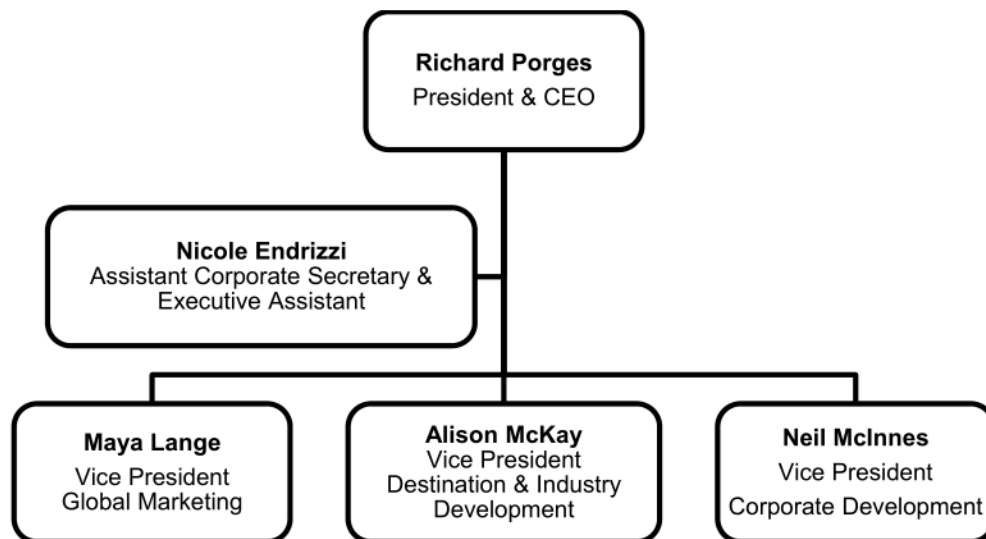
Destination Management:

- Destination BC is continuing to work with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, the Regional Destination Marketing Organizations, Communities, and Indigenous partners to ensure that investments in destination development and tourism infrastructure align with provincial tourism priorities outlined in the *Strategic Framework for Tourism in B.C.*, while supporting the industry's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Destination BC will continue to build upon their "Invest in Iconics" strategy to better align branding, marketing and destination development efforts around a set of iconic routes and places to better attract visitors to these areas throughout B.C.

Legislative Priorities:

- Not applicable

Organizational Chart:



Board Composition and Committees:

- Destination BC is governed by a Board of Directors that includes up to 9 individuals.
 - A minority (4 of 9 Directors) may have current involvement or investments in the tourism and/or hospitality sectors.
 - The majority (5 of 9 Directors) may not have current involvement or investments in the tourism and/or hospitality sectors.
 - Currently, there are 9 members on Destination BC's Board.
 - Members of the DBC Board are appointed by Order in Council (OIC).
 - The Chair may be appointed by the Board under the bylaws of the corporation if they are not designated by OIC.
 - The Destination BC Corp. Act established a Tourism Marketing Committee. The Committee is regionally and sector representative and provides advice to the Board and CEO on tourism marketing strategies and tactics.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Last Name	First Name	Title	Mechanism	Initial Appt	Term Expiry
Blackeney	Amy	Member	Order in Council	2020-07-31	2023-07-31
Wright	Randall	Member	Order in Council	2020-07-31	2023-07-31
Fraser	Scott	Chair	Order in Council	2021-07-31	2024-07-31
McKay	Joel	Member	Order in Council	2018-07-12	2023-07-31
Wilson	Penny Roberta	Member	Order in Council	2017-12-31	2023-12-31
McPhee	Annita	Director	Order in Council	2022-10-11	2025-10-11
Simcox	Lori	Director	Order in Council	2021-06-15	2023-07-31
Riediger	Mike	Director	Order in Council	2022-11-25	2025-07-31

Appointments required:

- None

Websites: www.DestinationBC.ca www.HelloBC.com

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Sector Strategy

Richard Porges, President & CEO, DBC

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

PAVCO - OVERVIEW

Issue: British Columbia Pavilion Corporation (PavCo).

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **B.C. Pavilion Corporation (PavCo) generates economic and community benefit for the people of B.C. by effectively managing its public facilities in Vancouver – BC Place and the Vancouver Convention Centre.**
- **B.C. Pavilion Corporation was significantly impacted by pandemic-related restrictions on travel and public gatherings.**
- **Prior to COVID-19, the corporation generated more than \$450 million per year of economic benefit and provided significant community benefit for the people of B.C.**
- **In Fiscal Year 2022/23, the corporation is forecasting \$410 million in economic benefit and related community benefit.**
- **Global attention will be drawn to the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place in the years ahead with high-profile international events including the International Conference and Exhibition on Liquefied Natural Gas in July 2023, Grey Cup 2024, Invictus Games 2025, Alcoholics Anonymous International 2025, and FIFA World Cup 2026.**

KEY FACTS

Statutory Authority: *British Columbia Pavilion Corporation Act*
(formerly *British Columbia Enterprise Corporations Act*)

Type of Organization: Crown Corporation

Appointment Process: Shareholder Consent Resolution

Purpose of Crown:

- B.C. Pavilion Corporation (PavCo) generates economic and community benefit for the people of B.C. by prudently managing its public facilities in Vancouver – BC Place and the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Background/Status:

- The Vancouver Convention Centre is the provincial flagship for conventions, trade and consumer shows and meetings. It was the world's first double LEED® Platinum certified convention centre.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- BC Place is the largest indoor gathering place in British Columbia and provides support to industry as a venue for consumer shows, as well as being a major sports and entertainment centre.
- The events held at PavCo's facilities support the tourism and hospitality industries, as well as trade development. PavCo's clients and guests utilize hotel rooms, local hospitality services and goods and services produced by many B.C.-based businesses.
- PavCo's Client Profile includes: Visitors from British Columbia and around the world, businesses and associations representing the tourism and hospitality industries; clients leasing space for commercial activity and renting space for events; suppliers of goods and services to events; community neighbours and the general public; Federal, provincial and municipal institutions and ministries.

Financial Impact and Recovery from COVID-19:

- PavCo's business were significantly impacted by pandemic-related restrictions on travel and public gatherings.
- Prior to COVID-19, PavCo generated more than \$450 million per year of economic benefit and provided significant community benefit for the people of B.C.
- In Fiscal Year 2022/23, PavCo is forecasting \$410 million in economic benefit and related community benefit.
- PavCo's venues will continue to focus on providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all attendees, adhering to the comprehensive safety plans developed for both facilities.
- As a response to the pandemic, the global meetings industry has seen an increase in virtually hosted events. PavCo is monitoring this trend and will need to balance the expectations of its clients to incorporate virtual, hybrid and live events as the sector stabilizes.
- Regional and global forces will continue to impact PavCo's business recovery as events are dependent both on international and leisure domestic travel as well as consumer and client confidence in attending large-scale events.
- In fiscal year 2023/24, it is anticipated that BC Place will approach or exceed pre-pandemic levels in the number of events hosted, attendance and economic impact.
- Global attention will be drawn to the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place in the years ahead with high-profile international events including the International Conference and Exhibition on Liquefied Natural Gas in July 2023, Grey Cup 2024, Invictus Games and AA International in 2025, and FIFA World Cup 2026.
- PavCo will continue to explore options for additional revenue streams that align with PavCo's mandate, the Strategic Framework for Tourism, and other Government priorities, while working collaboratively with Indigenous and community partners.

2023/24 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

PavCo's main strategic goals are to:

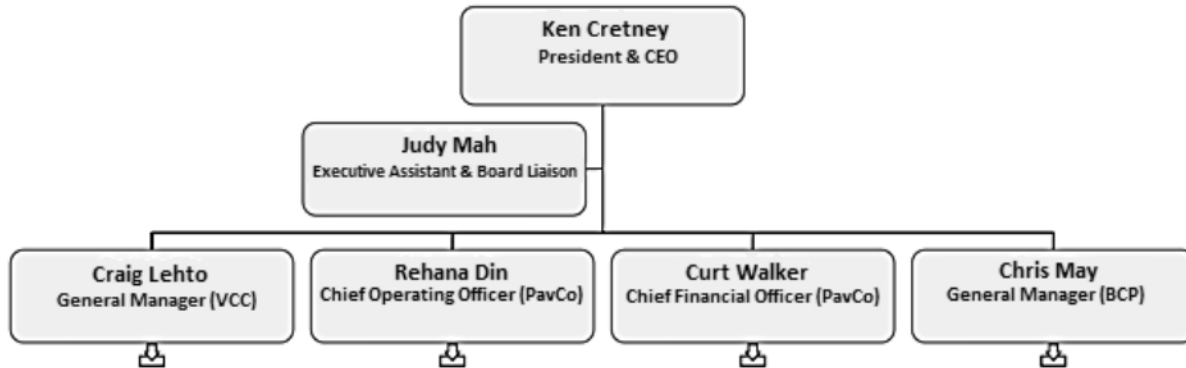
- Create economic and community benefit while optimizing corporate profit.
- Provide exceptional customer service.
- Build a highly engaged workforce.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Legislative Priorities:

- MUNI drafting OIC to bring the B.C. Pavilion Corporation Act into effect (March 2023) with legislative responsibility for PavCo transferring to TACS.

Organizational Chart:



Board Composition:

Last Name	First Name	Title	Mechanism	Initial Appt	Term Expiry
Cahill	Clifford (Dan)	Director	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2018-09-01	At pleasure
Coughlan	Flavia	Director	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2018-09-01	At pleasure
Guerrera	Carla	Director	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2018-09-01	At pleasure
Harris	Roderick	Director	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2018-09-01	At pleasure
Point	Dr. Gwendolyn (Gwen)	Chair	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2018-09-01	At pleasure
Rai	Jatinder	Director	Shareholder Consent Resolution	2017-09-01	At pleasure

Appointments Required:

- No changes to the Board appointments are anticipated within the next 90 days.

Website: <http://www.bcpavco.com/>

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Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE MAJOR EVENTS MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL DISTRICT TAX

Issue: Major Events Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT).

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- ***Note: Questions on tax policy should be directed to the Minister of Finance. TACS Minister will focus on questions regarding the value of major events to tourism.***
- **Our government is committed to supporting communities in rebuilding and enhancing visitor economies.**
- **I am thrilled that Vancouver was selected as host city for the FIFA World Cup 2026.**
- **FIFA is the largest single sport event in the world – hosting it will be a once in a generation opportunity for soccer fans, for our tourism sector, and for all British Columbians.**
- **The City of Vancouver will be the first to use a new tool to help cover the costs of the 2026 World Cup.**
- **Our government introduced changes to the *Provincial Sales Tax Act* in early 2023 so communities can apply for an additional Major Events Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) of up to 2.5% on short-term accommodation sales.**
- **The City, Destination Vancouver, the Province and the local accommodation sector have consulted on implementing an additional Major Events MRDT in Vancouver. As a result, an additional tax of 2.5% on purchases of accommodation in the City will be applied over seven years to help the City cover its estimated costs of hosting FIFA 2026. This in addition to the current 3% MRDT that is collected on behalf of Destination Vancouver.**
 - **As a result, overnight visitors to Vancouver will see an additional \$2.50 on each \$100 paid on short-term accommodations beginning February 1.**
 - **The temporary tax could generate approximately \$230 million in revenue over seven years.**

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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- **The Major Events MRDT is a tool that B.C. municipalities can use to provide time-limited support for events and other priorities. It is meant to be used to fund events that help bolster tourism.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On June 16, 2022, Vancouver was confirmed as a host city for the 2026 World Cup. The 2026 World Cup will be co-hosted by three countries (Canada, US, Mexico), and will be FIFA's largest tournament ever. While Vancouver hosted the Women's World Cup in 2015, this will be Canada's first time hosting the men's tournament.
- The accommodation sector in Vancouver is expected to benefit significantly from increased tourism and accommodation spending leading up to, during, and after the World Cup.
- Estimates from Destination BC suggest that the World Cup could result in an increase of 269,000 visitors, 45% of which from countries other than Canada and the US.
- Preliminary cost estimates to host the event range from \$240-260 million.
- In fall 2022, the City of Vancouver requested a temporary increase to the rate of Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) collected in Vancouver, in which the City would be named recipient, in order to offset the costs of planning, staging, and hosting the FIFA World Cup in 2026.
- The Province responded by introducing the new Major Events MRDT which will help Vancouver cover costs of hosting FIFA 2026 and it will be available to other local governments to help fund major events with the potential to draw significant out-of-province tourism.
- In 2007, the Province helped the Resort Municipality of Whistler pay for its costs of hosting the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games by introducing a similar temporary, additional Resort Accommodation Tax in the area.

MRDT Major Events Tax

- The new Major Events MRDT will be in addition to the long-standing MRDT that applies on short-term accommodations in more than 60 areas throughout the province.
- The MRDT applies to the purchase of taxable accommodation, such as hotels, motels, resorts, bed and breakfasts, houses, cottages and cabins, and other short-term lodging. The tax does not apply to other tourism businesses outside of the accommodation sector.
- MRDT also applies to short term rentals listed through AirBnB and other online accommodation platforms.
- Access to the Major Events MRDT will be limited to major international tourism events that help bolster provincial tourism and the economy. Some factors considered may include whether an event:
 - Is an internationally recognized tourism event;
 - Has great potential to draw significant out-of-province tourists and media attention; and
 - Bolsters tourism, employment and social and economic benefits for people and businesses in a community and elsewhere in the Province.

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- Communities will need support and prior approval from government to help ensure that the tax is dedicated and applied as intended, that it is time-limited and that it is subject to public reporting and transparency as set out in an agreement.
- TACS is working closely with the Ministry of Finance and Destination BC to develop policies and an application process so that communities can apply to have a Major Events MRDT collected within their jurisdictions for major international events.

Contact – Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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HERITAGE PROPERTIES FUNDING UPDATE

Issue: Funding for Provincially Owned Heritage Properties.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Government is committed to protecting B.C.'s heritage resources. This commitment is partially facilitated by the extraordinary work that B.C. heritage site operators do on behalf of Government.**
- **After a decade of investment to address major maintenance, B.C.'s heritage properties are in a much improved state of repair.**
- **In 2022/23, Government provided \$3.75M to support operations at these irreplaceable sites, conserving their heritage values and supporting public access. In addition, maintenance funding of \$1.3M was also provided.**
- **Similarly, in 2021/22, Government provided site operators \$3.7M. This is in addition to a number of economic recovery programs, including the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program and BC 150.**
- **While some site operators are seeking greater and longer-term financial operating commitments, these requests must be considered in light of other heritage sites that British Columbians would like the Province to also fund and protect.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Funding has been provided annually since 2002 to offset operating shortfalls (gap between site-earned net revenue and operating cost) at staffed heritage properties, although funding has not been consistent from year to year.
- Funding in 2022/23 for provincially owned heritage properties is \$3.75M. While this represents a return to funding levels of years previous, the seven staffed sites are also provided with cyclical maintenance funding and reap the benefits of the new revenue centres created as a side benefit of the previous funding.
- Barkerville Heritage Trust in particular continues to seek stable, predictable, and increased funding. Public accessibility and challenges associated with climate change make this site particularly challenging economically.

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- The branch has been conducting a review of operational costs of the staffed sites and will bring results forward later in 2023. The review has considered costs of maintenance and reviewed visitation at the sites.
- 7 properties are operated under agreements with site operators and 3 are leased to community societies; a further 11 properties are unstaffed and managed directly by Heritage Branch. As well, 44 other sites are provincially heritage designated, owned by other levels of government or non-profits, and receive no dedicated funding.
- In 2020/21, Government also invested \$20M in community owned Unique Heritage Infrastructure through the CERIP recovery program. BC 150, via the Heritage Branch, allocated \$2.5M directly to the seven staffed sites.
- The table below shows funding allocation to provincially owned heritage properties since 2018/19:

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24*
Staffed Properties	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Forecast	Planned
Barkerville and Cottonwood	\$2,605,000	\$2,405,000	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000
Fort Steele Historic Town	\$900,000	\$1,000,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$1,400,000
Hat Creek Ranch	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000
Kilby Farm and Store	\$65,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$155,000	\$155,000
Historic Yale	\$130,000	\$150,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
Point Ellice House	\$77,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$105,000	\$105,000
Emily Carr House	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Unstaffed Properties						
Eleven properties	\$261,000	\$360,000	\$485,000	\$425,200	\$0	\$100,000
Leased Properties						
Keremeos Grist Mill	\$89,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$13,000	TBD
Craigflower Manor	\$98,000	\$150,000	\$63,000	\$250,000	\$280,000	TBD
Craigflower Schoolhouse	\$38,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	TBD
Totals	\$4,628,000	\$4,695,000	\$4,168,000	\$4,375,200	\$4,055,000	\$4,350,000

***Includes only Transfers under Agreement projections (subject to change based on available funding). Operational Contract spending is still to be confirmed based on needs analysis.**

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Heritage Trust Funding

Issue: Barkerville Heritage Trust Funding

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Government recognizes the importance of protecting and interpreting B.C.'s history through heritage properties such as Barkerville and Cottonwood.
- We value Barkerville Heritage Trust's stewardship of these significant public assets and are pleased that board members and the site operator share a united working relationship.
- Operating funding this fiscal is set at \$2.085M, the same level as fiscal 2021/22. This level of funding is designed to ensure that Barkerville and Cottonwood provide maximum public benefit while also allowing the Trust to adequately maintain the public assets that benefited from previous years of elevated funding.
- The Trust's desire for increased operational funding must be considered within the context of the entire heritage properties portfolio. The \$2.085M funding to the Trust represents 55% of all provincial heritage properties funding.
- Heritage Branch staff and the Trust will continue to work closely to ensure annual operational funding meets the needs of Barkerville and Cottonwood while also accommodating the needs of the heritage properties portfolio.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Barkerville Historic Town and Park is a 457 hectare historic town and gold mining landscape near Quesnel. Barkerville comprises 160 buildings and three campgrounds open seasonally. Cottonwood is a historic farm on the Cariboo Wagon Road between Quesnel and Barkerville is operational in the spring/summer/fall.
- The two provincially-owned sites, operated by the Trust under an agreement to March 2025, receive 60,000-70,000 visitors per year.
- A 2010 study estimated that Barkerville Historic Town & Park alone had a provincial economic impact of \$12.7 million.

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- Between fiscal year 2015/16 and 2019/20, the Trust has received elevated operating funding of \$2.4M per year to support the additional workload attributed to addressing previously deferred maintenance and wildfire risk reduction and climate adaptation preparedness. While the deferred maintenance work is largely complete, and funding has been reduced accordingly, climate challenges remain.
- In August 2021, several of the Province's Heritage Site site operators (including Barkerville) met with the Minister (Conroy) to seek increased operating funding assistance. These site operators, Barkerville in particular, have indicated a struggle to meet basic operational needs, have chronic staffing shortages, and struggle to retain staff with the necessary knowledge and skills to meaningfully interpret and animate the sites. Climate change adaptation challenges and increased costs of materials for maintenance have also become increasingly problematic. Barkerville's requests for increased funding to be returned to the elevated funding years - \$2.4M, have not been successful.
- Heritage Branch continues to work with the organization to ensure financial best practices are being followed, spending is in line with Heritage Branch's expectations and previous external report recommendations to improve financial self-sufficiency are being followed. The organization, working with the Province, has taken measures to do so including curtailing winter operations (where revenue does not outweigh the costs) and ensuring cost assessment and business planning are done on all programs. The Branch is working with management consultants to provide oversight to ensure all financial matters are being maximized for the benefit of the heritage site with an emphasis on core heritage conservation and site operations.
- With all requests for funding, these must be considered in light of all available needs and across a full portfolio.
- Recently Heritage Branch amended its Collection Management Policy to provide more clear direction, and support for, the repatriation of Indigenous Cultural Material to Indigenous communities from the Provincial Heritage Properties collections. While outside the core responsibilities of site funding, repatriation work at the Provincial Heritage Properties aligns with reconciliation mandates and strengthens Indigenous relations with the Province.
- The provincial heritage properties are important heritage assets in B.C. which are strong drivers for community identity, rural economic development, and cultural tourism.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

WORKING WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES/ INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE

Issue: Heritage Branch's work with Indigenous Communities.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Supporting Indigenous cultural heritage is integral to Government's commitment to reconciliation and fulfilment of the *Declaration Act*.
- Heritage Branch prioritizes collaboration with Indigenous communities and cultural organizations to support safeguarding cultural heritage.
- Priority areas include officially adopting Indigenous language names for geographical features, collaboration on interpretation and management of provincial heritage sites and stewardship of fossil resources.
- Heritage Branch actively seeks opportunities to leverage existing heritage programming and supports to further the goals of Indigenous partners and reconciliation.
- Heritage Branch is in dialogue with Indigenous communities about Indigenous cultural objects held in the Provincial heritage artifact collection, and has made tangible commitments to repatriate Indigenous cultural objects during FY 2022/23.
- Heritage Branch has worked with the First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) to develop their Heritage Program, now operated by FPCC and funded by the Province, to provide Indigenous leadership in cultural heritage stewardship.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Heritage program development with First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC)

- FPCC holds a legislated mandate to support BC First Nations to revitalize their languages, arts and cultures. Heritage Branch signed a 2019 MOU with FPCC to support the development of a new program for heritage within FPCC.
- FPCC secured three years of funding from the Province for an expanded heritage program based on the successes of the MOU with Heritage Branch. The 2022/2023 budget for this program was \$1.552M and the planned budget for 2023/2024 is \$1.327M. Provincial investment is in place up to 2024/2025.

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- During FY 22/23 FPCC transitioned to working more closely with MIRR to develop a long-term funding plan for FPCC across all areas of its mandate, including cultural heritage.

Geographical Names - traditional names in Indigenous languages

- The BC Geographical Names Office (BCGNO) within the Heritage Branch holds the delegated authority to officially name geographical features, and manages all official place names including adopting new names, changing names, or rescinding names.
- The BCGNO is increasingly focused on Indigenous language naming projects which officially recognize and restore the traditional names for geographical features.
- The BCGNO currently works with 22 Indigenous governments (Treaty, Government-to-Government Agreements, and outside of the formal G2G agreement process) to restore Indigenous names on provincial maps (compared to three in 2016). There are currently 181 names under evaluation as a result of this work.

Provincial Heritage Property stewardship and Indigenous collaboration

Heritage Branch actively seeks to build relationships and collaborate with First Nations whose traditional territories include provincially-owned heritage sites. This work has improved interpretation of Indigenous cultural heritage and empowered Indigenous communities to guide the broader management of heritage sites. This work includes:

- Bonaparte First Nation cultural heritage interpretation at Historic Hat Creek Ranch via an ethnographic study, oral history project and increased operational involvement of Bonaparte members.
- Collaboration with Bonaparte First Nation in development, interpretation and management of McAbee Fossil Beds Heritage Site.
- A 10-year management agreement with McLeod Lake Indian Band for stewardship of McLeod Lake Post heritage site, to develop Indigenous cultural heritage interpretation.
- Revitalization of Kilby Historic Site exhibits in partnership with Sts'ailes and Sq'ewlets.

Provincial Collections and Repatriation Initiatives

- The Provincial Heritage Properties include a collection of heritage artifacts regulated according to Heritage Branch's Collections Management Policy which was amended in 2020 to include policy to guide the repatriation of Indigenous Cultural Material.
- At Kilby Historic Site MOUs are in place between the Province and Sts'ailes and Sq'ewlets Nations to collaborate on establishing provenance and repatriating items from the collection. Repatriation of these objects (baskets and a paddle) will conclude with celebratory events hosted by the Nations in March 2023.
- Heritage Branch is in early discussions with several other First Nations to explore interest in further repatriation of artifacts held in the provincial collection.

Stewardship of Fossil Resources and Indigenous collaboration

- The Fossil Management Office continues to build relationships with Indigenous governments by sharing information about fossil resources within their territory and by better understanding the cultural significance of fossils and geological features.
- Fossil site protection offers opportunities for co-management and interpretation of Indigenous cultural heritage.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CERIP AND 150 TIME IMMEMORIAL

Issue: Status of BC 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program and Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure (Unique Heritage Infrastructure) Program.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The Province is committed to protecting B.C.'s heritage resources and continues to provide funding to support these important sites.
- The Province has provided a record investment of more than \$50M to preserve and protect B.C.'s heritage assets since 2020.

150 Time Immemorial (BC 150)

- In 2021, the Province committed \$30M in the BC 150 program to acknowledge the 150th year since B.C. joined confederation, but the history of this place stretches back to time immemorial.
- BC 150 supported projects that promote and educate British Columbians about diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and resiliency and was a partnership between the Province, the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation and Heritage BC.
- In spring 2022, the program provided \$20M in one-time grants, a \$5M endowment to the Heritage Legacy Fund and a \$5M endowment for the creation of a First Peoples' Cultural Heritage Fund.

CERIP

- In September 2020, the Province announced \$100M for infrastructure investments under the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP).
- The Unique Heritage Infrastructure stream of CERIP provided \$20M to fund 79 projects that help conserve heritage structures, cultural heritage facilities and culturally significant landscapes and trails.
- This is the largest fund ever launched by the Province to support rehabilitation of cultural heritage infrastructure in B.C.'s communities.

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- **The variety of proposed projects illustrates the richness of B.C.'s heritage and the role it can play in job creation and economic recovery.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

BC 150 Time Immemorial (Total \$30M)

- \$20M in one-time grants is administered by the following programs with completion by July 2024:
 - \$10M delivered by Heritage BC to 92 projects in 54 communities in every region of the Province.
 - \$7.5M delivered by First Peoples' Cultural Foundation (FPCF) for an application-based program open to Indigenous communities and organizations. 16 infrastructure projects were funded.
 - \$2.5M delivered by Heritage Branch to 12 not-for-profit groups operating provincially owned heritage properties for a range of heritage conservation projects.
- \$10M was allocated to following endowments:
 - \$5M to the existing Heritage Legacy Fund administered by Heritage BC.
 - \$5M to establish the Province's first endowment to fund Indigenous cultural heritage, administered by the FPCF.
- Funded projects included: infrastructure repair at Keremeos Grist Mill for improved public access and facilitating the Indigenous-led site management at Fort McLeod National Historic Site.

CERIP (Total \$20M)

- The \$20M UHI stream is administered by the following established community partners:
 - \$16M by Heritage BC distributed to 68 communities across the Province to support heritage infrastructure projects.
 - \$4M by the FPCF, working closely with the First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC), to support 11 indigenous-led heritage infrastructure projects.
- Administration of the Indigenous Cultural Heritage projects by Indigenous-led organizations ensured the needs of Indigenous communities are considered.
- Contribution agreements were finalized with successful applicants. Projects will be completed by March 2023, unless extensions were granted. Government will receive final report backs from Heritage BC and FPCC by March 2024.
- While all streams of CERIP were oversubscribed, the UHI stream received the most applications (263), with the highest value of requested funding (\$119M).
- Funded projects included: the rehabilitation of a heritage courthouse in Atlin for community use; the restoration of a Japanese internment memorial centre in New Denver; and the construction of a traditional pit house on the grounds of an Indigenous cultural heritage centre in Osoyoos.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE MOUNTAIN RESORTS CRITICAL PROJECT ACTIVITY

Issue: Mountain Resorts Critical Project Activity.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **We recognize the tourism value of the resort sector in BC. The sector is recovering post pandemic with the return of destination visitors and continued interest in development.**
- **The majority of BC's mountain resorts are developed on provincial land with operations and authorizations overseen by Mountain Resorts Branch.**
- **There is opportunity for increased visitation and revenues through greater buildout of existing approved Master Plans and by promoting all-seasons activities at resorts.**
- **The Province will continue to work closely with Indigenous communities, resort proponents and operators to ensure it is meeting its consultative duties and will look for further reconciliation opportunities with Indigenous People related to resort development.**
- **The Province will continue to engage communities, local governments, stakeholders, the public as part resort planning and decision-making processes.**

KEY FACTS

Economic and Social Benefits

- B.C. has some of North America's most recognizable and successful ski resorts.
- Mountain resorts provide significant economic and social benefits particularly in smaller, rural communities.

Recent and Proposed Investment

- Post pandemic, the sector is experiencing a resurgence of investment in recreational infrastructure, residential and commercial development, and future expansion planning.
- In 2022, the resort sector invested over \$50M directly into Crown land recreational improvements. In 2019, the investment was \$100M. Resorts are actively investing in summer recreational infrastructure, ie. bike parks, hiking trails, etc. to expand all seasons activities and support sustainability. Recent activities include:
 - Sun Peaks – Master Plan Update review ongoing, new highspeed chairlift proposed for construction for 2024/25 season, new residential accommodations in construction

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- Big White – Master Plan Update and Master Development Agreement (MDA) Replacement application underway, new residential accommodations in construction
- Revelstoke – New hotel and golf course development underway
- Powder King – Master Plan Update and MDA replacement review ongoing and new day lodge construction
- Mt Timothy – \$100K investment in recreational infrastructure in 2022. Resort is working to prepare a Master Plan expansion and transition to a MDA.
- Troll Resort – 2022 saw initial development for new Pinegrove T-Bar which will result in ~\$500-800K in direct capital investment. The resort plans to double the skiable terrain over the next 2 years by adding 25+ new runs.
- Whitewater – Investment of \$5M for a new high speed quad to be operational for the 2023/24 season. Additional \$1.5-2M over the next 1-2 years in RV campground, trail development and parking.
- Zincton – completed review of Expression of Interest for new resort proposal near New Denver. Currently in Formal Proposal review stage, consideration of Interim Agreement.
- Bridal Veil – actively reviewing Expression of Interest for new resort proposal
- Whistler Blackcomb – \$44M investments in lift infrastructure for 2022/23 season:
 - new high speed 8 person Creekside Gondola (replacing existing 6-person gondola) will increase out-of-base uphill capacity by 35% and
 - new high speed 6 person Big Red Express Chair (replacing existing high-speed 4-person lift) will increase uphill capacity by nearly 30%.
- Over \$650K in Wildfire Risk Reduction projects was delivered in 2022 to mountain resort communities and ski areas to reduce wildfire risk at mountain resorts
- Over \$4.8M in CERIP funding invested at resorts in 2022.

COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery

- The pandemic significantly impacted those resorts most dependant on international visitation but visitation at regional and community ski areas remained strong.
- Visitation at destination resorts has returned to pre-pandemic levels and revenues are equal to or exceeding pre-pandemic levels.
- Total direct revenues generated from mountain resorts thus far in fiscal year 2022/23 is over \$8.8M. This is up from \$4.4M in fiscal year 2021/22.

Accommodation and Reconciliation with First Nations

- The Branch has 6 Economic and Community Development Agreements for revenue sharing and has historically shared up to \$1M annually with local FNs.
- Specific Agreements are currently in place:
 - Tabor – 2022 Contribution Agreement with Lheidli T'enneh First Nation to support Cultural Heritage Assessment and participation in Master Plan Review, Operating Agreement replacement process
 - Sun Peaks – 2021-2023 MOU with Adams Lake & Little Shuswap Lake Bands and 2022-2023 Contribution Agreement with Neskonlith Band (Secwepemc First Nation)
 - Big White - 2023 Contribution Agreement to Westbank First Nation to support participation in Master Plan Review and MDA Replacement process

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- Whistler Blackcomb – 2020 Framework Agreement signed and updated Whistler OCP after engagement with Squamish and Lil'wat Nations, Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW), Whistler Blackcomb and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Contact - Nick Grant, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

BRIDAL FALLS GONDOLA AND ALL-SEASON RESORT APPLICATIONS

Issue: Bridal Veil Resort Expression of Interest and Bridal Falls Gondola proposal.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Two tourism-focused proposals are being considered by Government for the same area of Crown land: Cascade Skyline Gondola Project (CSGP) and Bridal Veil Mountain Resort (BVMR).
- The proposals fall under different Crown Land policies and are being adjudicated by different ministries, Ministry of Forests and TACS.
- The ministries collaborated to undertake an early joint referral process to gather information from stakeholders, local government and First Nations to inform the respective review processes.
- There are extensive existing Indigenous, environmental, public recreation and natural resource interests which need to be considered as part of both review processes.
- We appreciate that proposal review processes can be lengthy, but it is important that the ministries carry out due diligence activities and comprehensively assess each proposal to ensure that any future land use decisions are sound.
- As with all application review processes, no proponent is guaranteed an approval or authorization when seeking access to public land or provincial resources.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- South Coast Region Crown Lands received an application under the Adventure Tourism Policy for a gondola project called the Cascade Skyline Gondola Project (CSGP) (formerly called the Bridal Falls Gondola Project).
 - Application was received July 28, 2020 and accepted by Front Counter BC on December 18, 2020.
 - Cheam First Nation is an equity partner in the project.
- Mountain Resorts Branch (MRB) received an Expression of Interest (EOI) under the All-Seasons Resort Policy for the Bridal Veil Mountain Resort (BVMR).
 - EOI was received November 2020 and accepted for review January 2021.

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- Both projects are tourism and recreation focused proposal and have similarities, including gondola access to the alpine, but fall under different provincial policies.
- There is significant overlap between the two proposals both in terms of geography and key features (e.g., gondola) but also include key differences. Most notably, BVMR proposes the development of lift based alpine skiing and a village at the resort which includes commercial and residential development.
- Staff from MRB and South Coast Region Crown Lands Department are currently in discussion regarding the nature and scope of both policies however, administration of the two projects through existing policy based review processes is critical.
- There are significant cultural/First Nation, environmental, public recreation and natural resource interests in the area.
- The ministry carried out a coordinated joint early referral process between MRB and Crown Lands. The referral allowed the ministry to gather critical information from area First Nations, local governments and key agencies.
- To date, the ministry has heard various perspectives of local First Nations and communities.
- MRB is currently undertaking further due diligence work on proposed resort access and First Nations concerns/interests related BVMR. MRB has also carried out economic impact and market analysis on BVMR.
- MOF South Coast Region, MOF Lands Branch and TACS Mountain Resorts Branch continue to communicate regularly with respect to review processes, implications of milestones and government decision through the processes and policy considerations.
- Given the long-term implications to land management, land use, natural resource and cultural values in the area, review of these projects will take significant time and resources to complete.
- Currently, it is unknown if either proposal is feasible. Both projects will still need to undergo extensive reviews and feasibility studies; issues include wildlife/species at risk, road/gondola access, and geotechnical stability of the proposal areas. There are identified risks of slide in the area and known slumps identified as high risk.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE ZINCTON ALL-SEASONS RESORT APPLICATION

Issue: Zincton Resort Formal Proposal in Central Kootenays.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The *All-Seasons Resort Policy* (ASRP) provides for a comprehensive, multi-stage review process that seeks to address land use conflicts and minimize potential negative outcomes from resort development proposals through technical review and assessment, and the identification of critical issues through referrals and consultation with local First Nations, stakeholders and government agencies and development of modifications to the proposal.**
- **Mountain Resorts Branch (MRB) is currently reviewing the Zincton Formal Proposal to determine if the proposal will proceed to the final stage of review and planning, the Master Plan stage.**
- **The Formal Proposal Review included a public open house and comment period and referral and engagement with government agencies, stakeholders, local government and engagement/consultation with First Nations.**
- **Comments and referral responses received have been summarized in a “What We Heard Document” that is available online.**
- **Information has also been provided to the Proponent who must address key issues within the Formal Proposal.**
- **MRB will continue work with agency partners and area First Nations to coordinate review of the Zincton proposal with consideration of the existing activities and values within the proposal area.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In fall 2019, MRB received a new mountain resort proposal (*Zincton*) located near New Denver, BC in the Central Kootenays and Selkirk Mountain Range.
- The project proposes lift-accessed backcountry alpine skiing with a small, pedestrian village on the privately-owned parcel located immediately adjacent. The Zincton Area of Interest (AOI) encompasses 5,600 hectares of Crown land.
- Under the Province’s Resort Major Project Review Process, the initial EOI review stage is followed by progressively more intensive and detailed Formal Proposal and Master Plan

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planning/review stages. If successful, Master Plan (non-statutory) and Operating Agreement (statutory) approval decisions would follow the major project review process. In April 2020, MRB accepted the EOI and it was advertised for public comments and referred to stakeholders, government agencies and First Nations. A Gender Based Analysis was completed to guide the public engagement. The EOI was evaluated in accordance with the requirements and procedures as defined in the ASRP.

- In December 2020, MRB approved the EOI and invited the Proponent to submit the Formal Proposal.
- In September 2021, MRB accepted the draft Formal Proposal and received an application for an Interim Agreement. The acceptance and issuance of an Interim Agreement is contingent on the approval of the Formal Proposal. If approved, the Interim Agreement will allow the Proponent to access the land to conduct studies and assessments for the purpose of participating in the Master Plan review process.
- In October 2021, MRB initiated the Formal Proposal and Interim Agreement review process which included a public open house, public comment period, referral with government agencies, stakeholders, local government and engagement/consultation with First Nations.
- MRB has collated and reviewed all comments and referrals and has created a "What We Heard Document that is publicly posted. That information has been provided to the Proponent who must look for ways to address any potential impacts that have been identified.

Contact - Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism Strategy Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

PUBLIC RECREATION AT WHISTLER BLACKCOMB

Issue: Access through Blackcomb Controlled Recreation Area.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The Ministry through Mountain Resorts Branch continues to be actively engaged with BC Parks, Whistler Blackcomb and public recreation stakeholders on the topic of public access through the Blackcomb Controlled Recreation Area (CRA).
- The Province and Whistler Blackcomb are currently soliciting feedback on the 2022/2023 public access plan via a survey that is available on the [WB backcountry website](#) as well as [GovTogetherBC](#).
- Throughout the winter season and following the completion of the survey, the Province will review the feedback and continue to work with Whistler Blackcomb on a permanent solution for uphill winter public access through the Blackcomb CRA that will meet the requirements of the Master Development Agreement (MDA) while ensuring the safety of the uphill and downhill travelling public is maintained.
- There are multiple ways for backcountry users to access the backcountry beyond the Whistler Blackcomb tenure area.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Public access through the Blackcomb CRA through to Garibaldi and Blackcomb Glacier Provincial Parks has been a long-standing issue.
- Whistler Blackcomb (WB) is required under their tenures with the Province (Master Development Agreement or MDAs), to provide year-round, non-motorized public access through both Whistler and Blackcomb CRAs.
- Through the Whistler CRA, free and unrestricted, year-round access to Garibaldi Park has been, and will continue to be, available via the Singing Pass Trail.
- In summer, there are existing public access routes through Blackcomb; however, a permanent designated access route in the winter has not yet been established.
- WB, the Province, and partner groups have been working together on a solution for winter backcountry access through the Blackcomb Controlled Recreation Area.
- A winter public access route through the Blackcomb CRA must take into consideration the needs of the public while managing the operational realities of the resort and limiting risk to public safety.

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- For the 2022/2023 winter season, WB has provided a variety of options for winter public uphill access within and through the Blackcomb CRA to the Garibaldi Provincial Park.
- Components of the public access plan include upgrades to the lower mountain route, extension of the time restriction on the south route, addition of a new north route, improved signage for all routes and a reduction in the price for a backcountry lift ticket.

Contact: Nick Grant, ADM, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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ALL-SEASONS RESORT REVIEW PROCESS

Issue: BC Resort Review Process.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- In BC, resort development, for both new resorts and expansions, is guided by the All-Seasons Resort Policy (ASRP), under legislative authorities (*Land Act, Ministry, Lands Parks and Housing Act, Resort Timber Administration Act*).
- Proposals which meet the defined criteria of the ASRP, go through a major project review process that is multi-staged with consideration of community, environmental, social, economic, cultural and recreational/ski area values. Typically processes take years to complete due to the complexity and need to work with all users and interests.
- The ASRP provides for a comprehensive review process which seeks to address conflicts on the land and minimize potential negative outcomes through engagement, technical assessment, and modifications to proposals throughout the process. Stakeholder, agency, local government and First Nations engagement occurs at every stage of the process.
- The Mountain Resorts Branch website contains details on the policy and process as well as information on active reviews.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The disposition of Crown land for the use, operation and development of an All-Season Resort is guided by the All-Season Resort Policy (ASRP) and the All-Season Resort Guidelines (ASRG). The Guidelines are used in conjunction with the ASRP to set out the detailed planning and review requirements.
- The ASRP provides for a comprehensive, multi-stage resort planning and review process whereby each stage of review informs planning requirements for the next stage. The Province determines if the proponent has sufficiently addressed key issues before allowing the proposal to proceed in the process.
- Under the Province's ASRP, the initial Expression of Interest review stage is followed by progressively more intensive and detailed Formal Proposal and Master Plan planning/review stages. If successful, Master Plan (non-statutory) and Operating

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Agreement (statutory) approval decisions would follow the major project review process.

- The ASRP major project review process is in effect a land use planning process which assesses current conditions within and adjacent to a project proposal area. That includes inventory of existing values, constraints and legal interests, which provide considerations for the project assessment and the context for the review of negative impacts.
- A key element of the process is that it provides for stable and predictable review processes with multiple engagement opportunities. The goal is to determine if the project can successfully address key issues and proceed to the most intensive master plan review stage and, ultimately to provincial land use decision making.
- Resorts are very large investments on Crown land and require increased focus of review processes including the potential integration of recreation, community and economic development interests.
- Information on the planning process and information requirements for All-Season resort development as well as information on all current major project review processes at Crown land based resorts is available on the Mountain Resorts Branch [website](#).
- For a visual presentation of the entire process please refer to the [All-Seasons Resort Application Process Flowchart](#).

Contact - Nick Grant, Tourism Sector Strategy

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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CORE MESSAGING – CREATIVE

Issue: B.C.'s creative sector generated \$5.4 billion in total GDP in 2021.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The creative sector includes motion picture, music and sound recording, interactive digital media, and publishing industries.
- The pandemic revealed that the creative sector is adaptive, innovative, and resilient.
- These are the skills we need to sustain B.C.'s knowledge-based economy and workforce into the future.
- Together, we're collaborating to ensure this sector will continue to thrive and shine on the global stage.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In 2021, B.C.'s creative sector generated \$5.4 billion in economic activity and employed 74,532 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions, and upwards of 119,000 people when including gig workers¹.
 - B.C.'s creative sector increased by an estimated 8.15% in 2021 (\$5.4B in 2021, up from \$4.9B in 2020), which was greater than the 7.15% sector contraction in 2020 (\$4.9B in 2020, down from \$5.3B in 2019).
- B.C.'s creative sector is recognized for:
 - Being North America's third largest motion picture hub and the third largest music production centre in Canada;
 - Being one of the world's largest clusters of visual effects and animation companies;
 - Having the second highest number of interactive gaming companies in Canada and being a leader in augmented/virtual reality (AR/VR) for entertainment, business and industrial applications; and
 - Being the second largest English language book and magazine publishing sector in the country; and

Government's Priorities:

- The Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film has three creative sector mandate commitments:
 1. Work with the creative sector to identify strategies to support growth in urban and rural communities across British Columbia;

¹ Creative Industries Economic Research Assessment (CIERA) 2021

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2. Work with the film industry to ensure British Columbia continues to be a destination for the sector; and,
 3. Lead work with the federal government to ensure that any federal government programs pertaining to content production and distribution online continue to benefit artists in British Columbia, including digital-first artists.
- The BC Economic Plan includes an action item to provide “ongoing support for B.C.’s thriving television and film industry — the greenest in the world.”

Provincial support to the creative sector:

- Through Budget 2023, the Province is providing \$3.215 million to Creative BC and \$6.611 million to Knowledge Network to support operations.
- In February 2023, the Province announced \$30 million for Fairs, Festivals and Events, which includes live music events and film festivals.

Interactive Digital Media

- In 2022/23, Creative BC received \$675,000 from the BC Arts Council for the Interactive Fund to support 14 interactive and digital media companies in B.C.

Motion Picture

- In 2022/23, the Province invested approximately \$1.24 million into B.C.’s domestic motion picture industry through Creative BC.
- In addition to direct funding programs, the B.C. government provides support to the motion picture sector through tax credits.
 - In 2021/22, the film industry received \$654 million in tax credits.

Music and Sound Recording

- Starting in 2021/22, the Province invested \$22.5 million for three years to help stabilize and maintain B.C.’s music industry.
 - Budget 2022 provided an additional \$2.5 million through Amplify BC for live music operational support and music companies.

Book and Magazine Publishing

- In 2022/23, Creative B.C. invested \$111,662 (as of February 2022) through the Book Publishers Market Expansion Fund to support publishers to promote and expand their domestic and foreign business opportunities.
- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

KEY FACTS AND STATISTICS (AND INDUSTRY OVERVIEW)

Issue: The creative sector is moving towards recovery.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **In 2021, B.C.'s creative sector contributed \$5.4 billion total GDP to our economy, providing more than 74,000 full-time jobs and employing more than 119,000 British Columbians.**
 - **This demonstrates a modest improvement to the previous year, mostly due to strong activity in motion picture and video games.**
 - **Music and publishing continue to face significant challenges.**
- **Despite these difficulties, B.C. continues to be a global leader. We are:**
 - **Canada's largest motion picture hub, and the third largest motion picture hub in North America;**
 - **Home to one of the world's largest animation and /visual effects clusters, and third largest video games workforce in Canada; and**
 - **Canada's second largest English-language book publishing market and third largest centre for music in Canada.**
- **Our government is supporting sustained recovery by providing \$30 million to support fairs, festivals and events this year.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The creative sector includes motion picture, interactive digital media, music and sound recording, and magazine and book publishing.
- In 2021, B.C.'s creative sector generated \$5.4 billion in total gross domestic product (GDP) and employed 74,532 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs or 119,000 including gig workers¹.
 - Gig work is common in the creative sector, particularly in motion picture and music, where work is typically short-term and project-based.
- Based on Creative BC's Creative Industries Economic Research Assessment (CIERA) data, B.C.'s creative sector recovery outpaced the previous year's contraction.
- Following an overall sector decrease of 7.15% in 2020, the sector grew 8.15% in 2021.

¹ Creative Industry Economic Results Assessment: <https://www.creativebc.com/sector/research-reports/ciera/ciera-2021/>

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- CIERA provides annual sector indicators, including total GDP, output and jobs, derived from public datasets published by Statistics Canada.
 - While 2022 data is not available yet, early indications show the creative sector continued to recover strong, with motion picture production above pre-pandemic levels (estimated 457 productions in 2022, compared to 418 in 2019).
- Annually, B.C.'s creative industries host Creative Industries Week (CIW) to promote and celebrate the creative industries in B.C. CIW 2023 is April 17-21, 2023.

Motion Picture Industry

- The motion picture industry includes film and television, animation, and visual effects.
- B.C. is Canada's largest and North America's third largest motion picture production centre, after Los Angeles and New York.
- In 2021, the industry contributed \$2.4 billion in total GDP, up 8.58% from 2020 due to global production re-start post-pandemic.
- In 2021, there were 40,417 FTE jobs and up to 88,214 workers in motion picture.
- In 2021/22, there were 155 digital animation and visual effects productions in B.C., representing over \$870 million in B.C. production expenditures.
- Based on real-time tax credit application information, as of January 2023, Creative BC projects more than \$3.5 billion in production spending in 2022.

Music and Sound Recording Industry

- B.C. is Canada's third largest music centre. There are more than 280 music companies, 200 recording studios, and prior to the pandemic, over 200 music festivals across the province.
- In 2021, the industry contributed \$286 million in total GDP, up 12.49% from 2020 due to partial re-opening of live events.
- In 2021, there were 5,534 FTE jobs and 11,122 when including gig workers in the industry.

Interactive Digital Media (IDM)

- B.C. is home to approximately 17% of Canada's interactive entertainment companies.
 - According to the Entertainment Software Association, in 2021, there were 161 video game companies in B.C. and direct employment grew by 19% in 2021 over 2019.
- The province is at the forefront of a global virtual and augmented reality industry (AR/VR), with 230 companies in B.C. (up from a dozen in 2015).
- In 2021, the gaming industry alone in B.C. contributed approximately \$1.4 billion in total GDP, a 6% increase from 2020, and employed 13,512 FTE jobs.

Book and Magazine Publishing

- B.C. is the second largest English-language book publishing market in Canada.
- In 2021, B.C.'s magazine and book publishing sector contributed \$190 million in total GDP (17% decrease for books and 1% decrease for magazines) and supported 1,761 FTE jobs.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

COVID-19 CREATIVE SECTOR IMPACTS, SUPPORTS AND OUTCOMES

Issue: Supporting B.C.'s creative sector recovery from the pandemic.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The pandemic has been incredibly challenging for the creative sector.
- Our government acted quickly, and we have provided many important supports for the creative sector throughout this challenging time.
- While motion picture and video games are rebounding, music and publishing continue to face significant challenges.
- Our government is supporting recovery by providing \$30 million to support fairs, festivals, and events this year.
- I am committed to championing B.C.'s creative sector, and seeing it thrive again.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In 2020, because of the Provincial Health Order, the B.C. government prohibited public gatherings to stop the spread of COVID-19.
 - This was particularly difficult for the live music industry.
 - In 2020, B.C.'s creative sector contracted by 7.15% (CIERA) due to restrictions and industry shutdowns.
 - On February 17, 2022, the Province lifted the restrictions on indoor organized events including capacity limits and dancing.
- In 2022/23, B.C.'s creative sector is demonstrating an upwards trend as it recovers from the pandemic, with strong global demand for video games, books, music, movies, and TV:
 - **Motion Picture** – Strong production activity with more than 450 productions in B.C., above pre-pandemic levels (418 in 2019). The motion picture industry experienced an increase in costs due to the additional labour required to run COVID-safe sets, such as COVID safety officers.
 - **VFX/Animation/Interactive Digital Media** – Strong demand for post-production and video games, but the sector remains challenged by labour shortages, with B.C. being at risk of companies and workers choosing other Canadian jurisdictions with lower cost of living and more access to housing.
 - **Music Industry** – Live music artists and presenters continue to face pandemic-related challenges such as 25-30% increase in operating costs and audience

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hesitancy. Music festivals have also reported vendors are now asking for upfront deposits, which present cash flow challenges.

- **Book and Magazine Publishing** – Increased paper, printing costs and shipping delays continue to negatively impact publishers. Publishers are facing up to 60% increase in paper costs and 80% increase in container freight shipping costs.

Response:

- In 2020/21, Creative BC provided \$2.2 million operating support to 95 live music events and music companies. Creative BC also offered \$623,000 in microgrants to 742 artists (Showcase BC).
- On September 14, 2020, then Premier Horgan and Minister Beare announced a \$2 million Domestic Motion Picture Fund to help the domestic motion picture industry recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (part of the 2020 BC Action Plan relief funding).
- In 2021/22, then Minister Mark participated in three roundtables with stakeholders in the creative sector to discuss sector support and recovery. In addition, Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith held six meetings with sector stakeholders.

Recovery:

- In Spring 2021, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport announced \$22.5 million over three years for Amplify BC to support B.C.'s music industry.
 - In May-June 2021, Parliamentary Secretary Bob D'Eith led 17 roundtable meetings with 96 industry stakeholders. Based on industry feedback, Creative BC allocated a portion of funding to protect impacted music infrastructure and jobs.
- In 2021/22, Creative BC distributed \$1.2 million of the \$2 million Domestic Motion Picture Fund to support 21 emerging and equity-seeking creators and 12 productions.

Resilience:

- In 2022/23, Creative BC distributed \$0.86 million of the \$2 million Domestic Motion Picture Fund to support 14 productions.
- In 2021/22, the Province provided an additional \$2.5 million in support through Amplify BC for live music operational and music companies to support recovery.
- In November 2022, Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith participated in the Motion Picture Production Industry Association's annual marketing trip to Los Angeles, to strengthen relationships and encourage investment from key motion picture partners.

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Creative Sector COVID-19 Investments Summary

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
Response				
Showcase BC (Creative BC carry-over, TACS funded)	\$0.6M			
Amplify BC – Operating support, Live Music Stream (TACS funded, Creative BC administered)	\$2.2M			
Amplify BC – Operating support, Music Company Development Stream (TACS funded, Creative BC administered)	\$1.2M			
Small and Medium Size Business Recovery (JEDI) (total to all sectors)		\$430.0M		
Circuit Breaker Relief Grant (JEDI) (total to all sectors)		\$130.0M		
COVID Closure Relief Grant (JEDI) (total to all sectors)		\$14.0M		
Relief				
Renewal of Amplify BC – 1 year	\$7.5M			
Domestic Motion Picture Fund	\$2.0M			
Resilience				
Renewal of Amplify BC – 3 Years (21/22-23/24)	\$22.5M			
Amplify BC Top Up – Live Music and Music Company		\$2.5M		
5-year renewal of the BC Book Publishing Tax Credit (extended to March 31, 2026) (FIN)	Extended			

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

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CREATIVE BC OVERVIEW

Issue: Creative BC is B.C.'s lead agency for creative sector programming and services.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Creative BC is British Columbia's lead agency for creative sector funding and economic development in the province.**
- **Each year, our government provides more than \$3 million to Creative BC to deliver programs and services and promote the creative sector.**
- **Creative BC also administers the Film Incentive BC Tax Credit and the Production Services Tax Credit on behalf of the Province.**
- **Creative BC champions sustainability, diversity and equity and regional access across all of their programs, partnerships, and initiatives.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Creative BC is an independent, not-for-profit agency created by the Province in 2013 to build the capacity of B.C.'s creative sector.
 - There are 11 board members, led by Jesse Finkelstein, board chair.
 - There are 41 staff members, led by Prem Gill, CEO.
- Creative BC's mission is to elevate a diverse and dynamic creative sector through leadership, collaboration, and investment.
- The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) provides annual funding to Creative BC for program delivery, strategic planning, administration of the film and television tax credits, research and marketing and promotion.
 - In 2023/24, Creative BC is receiving \$3.215 million in annual funding.
- Creative BC also receives funding through administration fees from the Production Services Tax Credit (PSTC).
 - These fees are allocated to administering the tax credit programs, supporting the Provincial Film Commission and delivering the Domestic Motion Picture fund (if sufficient funds are available).
 - In 2021/22, Creative BC received approximately \$2.08 million in tax credit fees: \$1.39 million went to tax credit administration and \$0.69 million went to film commission service delivery.
 - In 2022/23, Creative BC will receive approximately \$3.7 million in tax credit fees.

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- In 2022/23, Creative BC received the following additional funding:
 - \$675,000 from the BC Arts Council to deliver the Interactive Fund;
 - \$92,943 from the Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills (through a Sector Labour Market Partnership);
 - \$900,000 from industry partners for program partnerships, including the Rogers Group of Funds, and the City of Vancouver; and
 - \$157,850 in industry contributions for *Reel Green*.

Creative BC's 2023/24 Priorities:

- TACS approves Creative BC's business plan each year in support of advancing the B.C. government's key priorities for the sector.
- Creative BC priorities for 2023/24 are:
 - Motion Picture Industry Stewardship;
 - Administering the final year of Amplify BC;
 - Improving Creative BC materials to be more accessible; and,
 - Expanding flagship programs including *Creative Pathways* and *Reel Green*

Creative BC Programs and Services:

- Administration of the provincial tax credit programs for film and television.
- The Provincial Film Commission and funding for eight Regional Film Commissions. Services include scouting support, location library, and guidance to productions.
- Delivery of multi-industry and industry-specific programs, including *Amplify BC*.
- Leading export marketing initiatives to market B.C.'s creative products globally and provide funding for B.C. companies to attend export-focused conferences and events.
- Supports for environmental initiatives in motion picture through *Reel Green BC*.
- Supports for equity, diversity, and inclusion in motion picture through *Creative Pathways*.
- Delivery of knowledge, research, insight, and information about the sector, including the Creative Industries Economic Results Assessment (CIERA) tool.
 - CIERA provides annual sector indicators, including total GDP, Output and Jobs, derived from public datasets published by Statistics Canada.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

- Creative BC incorporates Justice, Equity, Decolonization, Diversity, and Inclusion values into their program delivery. Notable actions in 2022/23 include:
 - Launching *Creative Pathways* to champion a dynamic motion picture workforce in B.C. that is equitable, diverse, and inclusive;
 - Partnerships, such as the Indigenous Music Initiative delivered by the First People's Cultural Council (through Amplify BC) and the \$1 million Rogers Group of Funds partnership to support Indigenous motion picture creators;
 - Expanding the City of Vancouver's Vancouver Music Fund through Amplify BC to support under-represented and regional artists across B.C.;
 - Initiating free grant coaching for new and returning applicants from underrepresented groups and regional communities for *Amplify BC*; and,
 - Releasing Creative BC's 2022/23-2026/27 strategic plan, with an objective to reduce barriers to participation in the Creative Sector.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

PUBLISHING INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Issue: Books and magazines play a vital role in B.C.'s cultural ecosystem

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **In 2021, publishing contributed \$190 million to our economy and more than 1,700 full-time jobs.**
- **B.C. has the second largest English-language book publishing industry in the country, representing 20 percent of English-language publishers.**
- **Magazines continue to be a popular medium for sharing innovation and ideas in B.C. and globally.**
- **We are proud of the diverse and unique voices that are amplified through the many publications produced in our province.**
- **B.C.'s publishing industry plays an integral and irreplaceable role in our cultural ecosystem.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In 2021, book and magazine publishing contributed \$190 million in total GDP to B.C.'s economy.
 - Book publishing was down 17% and magazine publishing 1% from 2020.
- In 2021, book and magazine publishing provided 1,761 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs, with many additional gig workers (part-time and/or contract).
- B.C.'s book and magazine publishers contribute to local economies by investing in associated industries, such as writing, editing, illustration, design, printing, IT support, digital asset management, warehousing, shipping, sales and marketing.
- Publishers are committed to amplifying under-represented authors and regional stories.
- There are nearly 80 independent bookstores located in communities across B.C.

Book Publishing

- B.C. book publishers account for 20% of Canadian English-language publishers.
- There are 45 publishing houses in B.C., and many are owner-operated.
 - 25 are members of the Association of Book Publishers of B.C.
 - Approximately 20 are businesses that include self-publishers, hybrid publishers and chapbook presses.¹
- 70% of the workforce is female (2018 Canadian Book Publishing Industry Profile).

¹ A hybrid press is a publishing house which can be broadly defined by its source of revenue. The revenue source of a traditional publisher is through the sale of books (and other related materials) that they publish, while the revenue of hybrid publishers comes from both book sales and fees charged to the author for the execution of their publishing services. A chapbook is a small publication of up to about 40 pages. Inside can be any genre of literature but they are particularly popular in the poetry world.

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- B.C. book publishers amplify under-represented and marginalized voices:
 - Theytus Books, based in Penticton, is Canada's first Indigenous owned and operated book publisher, publishing Indigenous authors since 1980.
 - Arsenal Press, based in Vancouver, publishes books on social issues and gender studies by LGBTQ2S+ and BIPOC authors.
- B.C. book publishers are successful exporters, bringing Canadian writing and culture to a global audience.
 - Export and rights sales account for an average of 30% of their annual revenue, with some publishers reporting up to 60% export sales.
- BC Book Day is an annual awareness day, held in conjunction with Creative Industries Week. The tentative date for 2023 is April 17th.

Magazine Publishing

- In B.C. there are 252 magazine titles, down from 325 pre-pandemic.
 - In 2022/23, 54 magazines were members of MagsBC, and 13 more affiliated with the industry association (e.g. sponsors, partners).
- B.C.'s magazine sector includes consumer and business-to-business (B2B) brands, with content distributed both in print and digitally.
- Business models in the magazine industry increasingly incorporate a range of revenue streams beyond traditional subscription and advertising, such as custom publishing, events-based and retail-based revenue generation strategies.

COVID-19 Impacts

- In 2020, magazines sales initially dropped an estimated 30-40%. They have since recovered to pre-pandemic levels.
- Pandemic residual effects and inflation, however, continue to impact book publishers:
 - **Paper:** Since January 2021, costs at Friesens Corporation, Canada's largest printer, have increased by 62%; this is mostly due to rising costs for standard offset paper.
 - For example, Orca Book Publishers has seen an average cost per book increase of 27% since the beginning of 2021.
 - **Printing:** A worldwide shortage of pulp and paper had increased printing costs.
 - For example, a 120 page book cost \$2.30 to print in 2020 and \$3.90 in 2022.
 - **Shipping:** Package delivery time and costs have significantly increased. For publishers who need to print overseas – China and Korea in particular – there have been increases of more than 80% on container freight by sea.
 - **Bookstores:** Book retailers (independent, big box, and online) saw increased demand during the pandemic. Despite this positive trend, bookstores remain responsible for covering shipping costs for any unsold stock. These costs are on the rise.

Provincial Supports

- In December 2022, Creative BC launched the new Intellectual Property (IP) BC Pilot Program to support the pre-development of motion picture content, with grants to option IP, including books and magazine articles.
 - This means the adaptation of books / magazine stories into motion picture (e.g. television or movie).
- BC Book Publishing Tax Credit (extended to March 31, 2026).

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- 2021/22 cost was \$3 million.
- In 2022/23, Creative B.C. has invested \$0.11 million to date through the Book Publishers Market Expansion Fund.
- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE KNOWLEDGE NETWORK OVERVIEW

Issue: Knowledge Network's annual operating grant is \$6.611 million.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Knowledge Network is British Columbia's public education broadcaster.**
- **It is one of the most watched primetime broadcasters in B.C.**
- **In 2022/23, the B.C. government allocated \$6.611 million for service delivery.**
- **Knowledge Network is internally managing the costs of government's updated wage mandate.**
- **Staff are monitoring the situation and will review again in the future.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Knowledge Network is a provincial Crown corporation, established in 1981.
 - It is legislated under the *Knowledge Network Corporation Act*.
- It provides a public educational program service for all British Columbians, free and commercial-free, through television, internet and mobile platforms.
- Knowledge Network is one of the largest investors in original B.C.-owned content in the Province and it is currently the fourth most watched broadcaster.
- The Corporation's activities include:
 - Commissioning original content from B.C. filmmakers and purchasing the broadcasting rights to content from other sources;
 - Supporting literacy, problem solving and cooperation through quality children's content;
 - Ensuring seniors have affordable and easy access to programs; and
 - Providing a platform for diverse stories, cultures and histories, such as *BC: An Untold Story* which first aired in 2021, and again in December 2022.
- The Board is comprised of seven members (four current vacancies), appointed by Order in Council.
 - On November 25, 2022, the Minister appointed Dr. Satwinder Kaur Bains as Chair.
- There are 44.55 Full-Time Equivalent employees.

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Funding:

- Knowledge Network is funded through an annual operating grant from the provincial government and viewer donations.

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Operating Grant	\$6,708,000	\$6,611,000	\$6,611,000	\$6,611,000	\$6,611,000

- In 2023/24, the B.C. government is providing \$6.611 million for service delivery, consistent with the previous fiscal.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

- In 2023/24, Knowledge Network is projecting \$5.8 million in donations from viewers.
 - Knowledge Network is anticipating a slight drop in donations over the previous fiscal, due to the impact of inflation on charitable giving, and a potential recession in 2023.
 - Knowledge Network is aiming to grow its Legacy Circle Donors.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Mandate Letter:

- TACS provides Knowledge Network with overall mandate direction and oversight.
- The 2021/22 Knowledge Network Mandate Letter provides four directions:
 - Provide quality, freely available and commercial-free television and streaming services to British Columbians.
 - Broadcast programming that promotes equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism, in addition to topics of relevance to British Columbians such as: literacy and early childhood development; history, arts and culture.
 - Collaborate with BC's independent production sector to create original stories and leverage federal funding.
 - Collaborate with independent, Indigenous filmmakers to create original stories and continue to increase opportunities to share Indigenous perspectives, as well as ensure B.C.'s culturally diverse storytellers are reflected.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

KNOWLEDGE NETWORK: EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Issue: Knowledge Network is addressing inequity in its commissioning.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **In response to the independent equity report in February 2022, Knowledge Network has been on a transformative path.**
- **They are meaningfully implementing their Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Plan.**
 - **They adopted measurable three-year targets for commissioning Indigenous, Black and People of Colour independent producers.**
 - **They welcomed new leadership in Michelle van Beusekom as the new President and CEO, and Satwinder Bains as the new Board Chair.**
 - **They hired an Indigenous filmmaker Gordon Loverin as a new Producer to better support racialized and diverse filmmakers.**
- **Our government is closely tracking progress, and supporting Knowledge Network every step of the way.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In March 2021, independent stakeholders raised concerns about the lack of racial equity in Knowledge Network's (KN) current programming and commissioning efforts.
- In February 2022, KN released an independent audit of its pre-licenses (commissions) from 2014 to 2021.
 - The report found that over the last seven years, KN supported only a small percentage of commissioned projects owned by Indigenous and racialized producers.
- KN took steps to address the findings through releasing its Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Action Plan, released December 2021. Actions taken to date include:
 - Appointing three new members to the board with racial equity and lived experience;
 - Hiring Indigenous filmmaker Gordon Loverin as its new Producer, Original Documentaries, to better support racialized and diverse filmmakers; and
 - Setting measurable targets for commissioning in their Service Plan. These include:
 - Commission 25 per cent of Knowledge Original documentary features and shorts from B.C. independent Indigenous production companies (total commissions, over three years).

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- Commission at least 50 per cent of Knowledge Original documentary features and shorts from independent, Black and People of Colour (BPOC) led production companies (total commissions, over three years).
- In May 2022, the KN Board ended CEO and president Rudy Buttignol's contract, effective June 30, 2022.
 - The Board made this decision because it determined that it was the right time for renewal to move the organization forward.
- In July 2022, the Board Chair Maurine Karagianis resigned her position.
Personal Information
 - On November 25, 2022 the Minister appointed Dr. Satwinder Bains as the Chair.
- On January 6, 2023 KN announced its new CEO and President, Michelle van Beusekom. She started on February 6, 2023.
 - Michelle brings over 25 years of experience in Canada's broadcast and production sectors. She has been an industry leader in all aspects of equity, diversity, social inclusion and citizen-engagement.

Current Initiatives

Indigenous, Black and People of Colour (IBPOC) Documentary Development Initiative

- 23 submissions were received (11 from racialized producers and twelve from Indigenous producers).
- KN chose three projects to move forward into development with a KN development fee and an allocation from KN's Canada Media Fund development envelope.

First Peoples' Cultural Revitalization in B.C.

- KN and the First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) are collaborating on a new documentary initiative about First Nations cultural revitalization in British Columbia.
- KN will commission two half-hour compilations, each comprised of 10 short documentaries that showcase efforts to revitalize First Nations languages, arts, cultures and heritage and its positive impact on communities.
- The films will premiere on Knowledge Network's platforms in 2024.

Research Project

- KN is participating in a research initiative led by the Racial Equity Media Collective (REMC), a national not-for-profit organization committed to equity for Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) creators in Canada.
- They are investigating two key questions currently facing the industry as a whole:
 1. What could it look like to put a national data collection system in place in the Canadian screen sector that would collect race-based and other equity data?
 2. How could and should the Canadian screen sector make use of targets/quotas to increase equity and representation of underrepresented groups across the sector?
- The REMC report will be released in March 2023.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

MUSIC - AMPLIFY BC OVERVIEW

Issue: Impacts of investment to date

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **We recognize that the live music sector was one of the first to shut down and the last to reopen. It is still in active recovery.**
- **Our government is supporting continued recovery by providing \$30 million to support fairs, festivals and events this year.**
- **We are proud of our music artists and companies, and the work we do together to ensure a strong and viable sector.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C. is the third largest centre for music in Canada.
- B.C. has more than 280 music companies, 200 recording studios, and prior to the pandemic there were over 200 music festivals across the province.
- In 2021, the industry's total GDP was \$286 million, a 13.49% increase over the previous year.
 - B.C.'s live music sector represents approximately 34% of the industry, and the limited return to live events throughout 2021 accounts for the increase in total GDP.
- The industry supports 5,534 FTE jobs, and an estimated 11,122 people working in the industry, including gig work.

Live Music

- The pandemic had a significant and lasting impact on events across B.C., specifically live music festivals.
- In recent months, the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport received several letters from organizers of various live music festivals, citing lack of funding, sponsorship and other challenges, flagging concerns of closures.
- Ongoing challenges cited by organizers include:
 - Reduced audiences, staff and volunteers;
 - Rising cost of equipment (such as stages, fences and tents) – a 25 to 30% increase;
 - Decreased number and availability of suppliers;
 - Financing issues for up-front costs;
 - Lack of public funding and loss of sponsorships.

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Amplify BC

- *Amplify BC* is the Province's music fund. It focuses on four program areas:
 1. Career development for B.C. artists;
 2. Support for live music events in B.C.;
 3. Support for B.C.'s music companies; and
 4. Development of B.C.'s provincial music industry.
- Creative BC administers the music funding and has developed accessible, streamlined programs based on feedback from the sector.
 - Regional representation, equity and inclusion are priorities of the program.
- *Amplify BC* has two key delivery partners:
 - First Peoples' Cultural Council – delivers the Indigenous Music Retreat and grants.
 - Music BC – delivers travel grants, training, export events and festival stages.

Funding History

- In April 2021, the Province announced a three-year renewal of *Amplify BC* at \$22.5 million, at \$7.5 million per year.
 - The program is currently in year two of three: 2021/22, **2022/23**, 2023/24.
- In May 2022, an additional, one-time \$2.5 million top-up was provided for live music operational support and live music companies to support pandemic recovery.
 - 61% of 2020/21 live music recipients and 41% of music company recipients said *Amplify BC* funding was critical to helping them stay in operation.
- The \$2.5 million supported:
 - 31 live music presenters and venues, providing operational support;
 - 13 music companies, providing operational support;
 - 54 festivals, venues, and presenters through regular intake; and
 - 22 music companies through regular intake.
- Recent highlights:
 - In FY2021/22, the Province provided \$600,000 over three years through *Amplify BC's* Emerging Opportunities envelope to Music BC to launch ARC, an artist accelerator.
 - In FY2022/23, the Province invested \$150,000 to expand the Demo Recording, Music Video, and Industry Catalyst programs (formerly the Vancouver Music Fund) to expand the program and reach under-represented musicians across the province.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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MOTION PICTURE – LA TRADE MISSION

Issue: Minister Beare and PS D’Eith participated in an industry-led marketing trip to Los Angeles, November 15-18, 2022.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Motion Picture Production Industry Association (MPPIA) of BC organizes an annual marketing trip to Los Angeles to strengthen ties with motion picture clients and investors.**
- **Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D’Eith attended this trip to promote B.C.’s motion picture industry to key partners, and to reinforce our commitments to sustainability and diversity.**
- **The total trip costs were \$11,868 for four delegates to travel to Los Angeles for four days.**
- **The delegation met with current and potential investors and partners to showcase B.C. as the best place for motion picture production.**
- **We know the motion picture industry is highly competitive and other jurisdictions are fighting hard to attract these investments.**
- **These meetings helped to reinforce B.C. as a destination for film and we heard from industry investors and stakeholders on issues impacting B.C.’s competitive position in the global market.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Motion Picture Production Industry Association of BC (MPPIA) organizes an annual marketing trip to Los Angeles (L.A). to strengthen ties with film and TV clients.
- MPPIA led an industry delegation down to L.A. from November 12-18, 2022.
- The Provincial delegation traveled November 15-18, 2022, with meetings on November 16-17, 2022.
- The Provincial delegation attendees were:
 - Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
 - Bob D’Eith, Parliamentary Secretary of Film and Arts
 - Kim Lacharite, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
 - Diego Cardona, Ministerial Advisor, Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
- The objectives for Provincial participation in this trip were to:

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1. Strengthen relationships with B.C.'s key investment partners in film, television, and digital production, and thank them for collaboration.
2. Hear from industry partners on opportunities and initiatives that the Province may be able to support.
3. Highlight the B.C. government's priorities of sustainability and equity, diversity and inclusion (and the work being done through Reel Green and Creative Pathways).

Trip Activities:

- Meeting with MPPIA chair to discuss trip priorities and opportunities.
- Meeting with key industry partner, Sony studios, to discuss investments in B.C., immigration challenges and participate on a set tour.
- Attend the Roundtable on Sustainability with key investment partners, hosted by MPPIA and the Provincial Film Commission.
- Meeting with B.C. Trade and Investment Representative in L.A. to learn about B.C.'s investment outreach activities in L.A.
- Led roundtable with major U.S. studios, hosted by MPPIA.
- Dinner meeting with MPPIA Delegation (B.C. industry stakeholders).
- Meeting with the Consul General of Canada to discuss opportunities and priorities in B.C., B.C.'s objectives in California.
- Spoke at the Evening Reception at the Consulate General of Canada, hosted by the Consul General and MPPIA.

Outcomes:

- During the trip, Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith met with nearly 30 key decision makers from major studios.
- Minister Beare spoke at a reception to more than 100 industry representatives.
- The Minister received valuable feedback directly from industry partners to build strong relationships and ensuring alignment with mandate commitments.
- Minister Beare and Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith reiterated government's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and sustainability, and heard from industry about work underway, progress made and issues that need to be considered as government considers EDI as part of the film and television tax credit programs.

Trip Expenses:

- The Province did not host any events or activities. The only costs of trip participation were accommodation, travel, transit and per diems for the four provincial attendees.
- The total cost was estimated at \$12,500. The total final trip costs were \$11,868.70:

	Accommodation	Travel/Transit	Per Diems	Total
Minister Beare	\$1,934.21	\$536.17	\$149.80	\$2,620.18
PS D'Eith	\$1,886.85	\$798.44	\$149.08	\$2,834.37
Kim Lacharite	\$1,619.11	\$1,332.40	\$231.10	\$3,182.61
Diego Cardona	\$1,934.21	\$1,171.59	\$125.74	\$3,231.54
			Total	\$11,868.70

Contact - Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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MOTION PICTURE: TAX CREDITS

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AND PRE-CERTIFICATION

Issue: Anticipated changes to the Film and Television Tax Credit Programs.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- In 2021/22, the motion picture industry in B.C. received approximately \$655 million in tax credits from the Province.
- Pre-certification was introduced in 2020 to help us better track tax credits and improve forecasting.
 - Our government listened to industry stakeholders concerns about the 60 day filing deadline and in Budget 2022 we extended the filing deadline to 120 days, going forward.
 - Through Budget 2023, we are extending the deadline retroactively to 2020. This change will provide relief to 156 productions that missed the filing deadline.
- We recognize and appreciate there are many Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives underway in the B.C. film industry.
 - We also believe more work could be done to promote diversity in B.C.'s film sector.
 - We are currently considering how best we can do this, and we will have more to share next year.
- Ministry of Finance is responsible for changes to the tax credit programs. Further questions should be directed to the Minister of Finance.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Since 1998, the Province has offered tax credits to both domestic and international motion picture production companies to drive economic development and attract and sustain production activity in an increasingly competitive global market.
- B.C. has two base provincial film and television tax credit programs:
 - Film Incentive BC Tax Credit (FIBC) - for domestic productions; and,
 - Production Services Tax Credit (PSTC) - for the foreign productions.
 - Additional "add-on" credits are available through both programs for regional/distant location work, animation, visual effects and post-production.

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- Both programs are labour-based tax incentives, meaning they provide refundable tax credits based on eligible B.C. labour costs.
- In 2021/22, B.C.'s film tax credit programs cost the Province approximately \$655 million, and Creative BC processed 430 applications for tax credit certificates representing over \$3.2 billion in production spending.

Pre-Certification

- In Fall 2018, the Ministry of Finance (FIN) led industry consultations where pre-certification was suggested as a way to predict the impact of tax credits on the Province's fiscal plan.
- In September 2019, Creative BC launched a voluntary PSTC pre-certification process.
- In February 2020, through Budget 2020, FIN made PSTC pre-certification mandatory by adopting it into the *Income Tax Act* effective July 1, 2020.
 - Under the legislation, a production applying for the PSTC must complete a one-page form outlining anticipated BC labour spending within 60 days of its first expenditure.
 - If the production fails to file the pre-certification notice within 60 days, any labour expenditure incurred on or before the filing date is not eligible for the PSTC.

- Advice/Recommendations

- Advice/Recommendations

- On May 10, 2022, former Minister of Finance, Selina Robinson, met with several B.C. film industry associations to advise that government will retroactively apply the extension as part of Budget 2023, providing full or partial relief to 156 additional productions.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

- On May 12, 2022, the Minister of Finance wrote to several film industry associations to advise that the Province is considering the inclusion of EDI requirements as part of the eligibility requirements for the B.C. film tax credit programs.

- Advice/Recommendations

- On September 9, 2022, industry associations met with the Parliamentary Secretary responsible for gender equity and expressed interest in supporting EDI and being consulted on any new requirements.

- Advice/Recommendations

Contact - Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

MOTION PICTURE – ONLINE STREAMING ACT

Issue: Bill C-11 is in the House of Commons awaiting Royal Assent

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Our government is closely tracking the progress of the Federal *Online Streaming Act*.**
- **The objective of Bill C-11 is to modernize the existing legislation and ensure streaming platforms fairly contribute to Canadian content.**
- **We are also working closely with industry partners to ensure that any changes support the domestic industry in B.C., and benefit our public broadcaster, Knowledge Network.**
- **It is essential that we protect Canadian creators and amplify local content on a global scale to ensure a thriving creative sector.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Federal *Broadcasting Act* was introduced in 1991 and it has not been updated since.
 - The current Act no longer reflects the full media landscape, including the impact of the Internet, and streaming services such as Crave, Netflix, Disney+, etc.
- On February 2, 2022, Heritage Minister Rodriguez introduced Bill C-11, the *Online Streaming Act*, into the House of Commons.
- It has five key objectives:
 1. Clarify the scope of the Act to include online undertakings (e.g. streaming services), so they are part of Canada's regulatory system;
 2. Ensure programming reflects Indigenous culture in Canada and is accessible to persons with disabilities;
 3. Grant the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) more flexibility in imposing regulations;
 4. Modernize how the CRTC enforces regulation; and,
 5. Clarify the difference between amateur and commercial online content.
- It requires that online streaming services:
 - Contribute to the creation and availability of Canadian stories and music; and
 - Pay their fair share in supporting Canadian artists, similar to traditional broadcasters.
- The Bill does not apply to individual Canadian citizens, but targets streaming platforms that broadcast commercial programs.
 - The Senate added an amendment clarifying that amateur videos posted by YouTubers and other digital creators will not be regulated by the Bill.

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Concerns with Bill C-11

- Domestic motion picture stakeholders across Canada are generally supportive of the Bill as it aims to increase funding for Canadian creators and content.
- Public discourse has been focused on the following issues:
 - **Discoverability** – Digital creators and online undertakings have raised concerns about “discoverability” provisions in the Bill that could allow the CRTC to force these platforms to promote Canadian content. Opponents say this could result in content suggestions that viewers do not want. The Senate Committee did not define discoverability.
 - **Canadian Content** – Media have written articles pointing out the current definition of Canadian content is restrictive. In September 2022, the Canada Media Fund started a conversation on the definition of Canadian content, ahead of CRTC’s pending consultation.
 - **User-Generated Content** – Opponents continue to raise concerns that individual content creators could be viewed as broadcasters under the Act and could come under CRTC regulation. The Heritage Minister has assured that individual creators are not included.
 - **Trade Issues** – In December 2022, United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai flagged U.S. concern over Bill C-11 in a meeting with International Trade Minister Mary Ng. U.S. stakeholders say Bill C-11 could negatively impact cross-border suppliers of online content, and it may provoke trade action. However, in early 2023 Minister Rodriguez stated that his government worked with trade experts to ensure the Bill is compliant with trade obligations.
- The Bill cleared the Senate on February 2, 2023.

Next Steps (Pending Royal Assent)

- The Bill is currently with the House of Commons awaiting Royal Assent, which could happen as early as the end of March.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Preliminary Priorities for B.C.

- On October 26, 2022 Parliamentary Secretary Bob D’Eith sent a letter to Minister Rodriguez in support of the Bill, Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- In the CRTC consultations, PS D'Eith will continue to advocate for B.C.'s creators, as per his mandate letter. Key priorities will be identified with stakeholders in the coming weeks.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Appendix 1:

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

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ESTIMATES NOTE

SUPPORT FOR THE VFX INDUSTRY

Issue: Provincial support for B.C.'s Visual Effects (VFX) industry

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **B.C. is home to one of the world's largest animation and visual effects clusters.**
- **In 2021/22, government supported 155 visual effects and animation projects in B.C. through the Digital animation, visual effects and post-production tax credit.**
- **Our government also invested in several initiatives over the past two years to help address workforce supply challenges in the creative technology sector, including visual effects and animation.**
 - **Through the Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSEFS), we are supporting microcredentialling to provide the skills needed to work in the VFX industry.**
 - **We are also supporting the creative technology sector develop strategies to increase awareness about career opportunities and attract talent, beginning with youth and equity-deserving groups.**
- **I know workforce development and supply are priorities for B.C.'s visual effects industry.**
 - **We will continue to work with industry partners and across government to explore opportunities to address these challenges and enable the long-term competitiveness of the industry.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C. is home to one of the world's largest animation and visual effects (VFX) clusters, employing over 2,000 people.
 - Since the 1990s, Vancouver has established itself as a world-leading centre of VFX.
 - The industry develops imagery that is created, manipulated or enhanced using digital technology.
 - In 2021/22, there were 155 digital animation and visual effects productions in B.C., representing over \$870 million in B.C. production expenditures.
- The VFX and animation industry is supported through the Digital Animation and Visual Effects (DAVE) tax credit, which was introduced in Budget 2003 to support the growing animation and VFX industries.

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- The DAVE tax credit provides a refundable labour-based tax credit of 16% on a production's digital animation, VFX or post-production activities.

Workforce Development:

- Several projects across government are underway to support workforce development in the creative technology/VFX industry.
- In 2019/20, the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS) provided \$492,355 to DigiBC, an industry association, to compile data regarding the composition of the creative technology sector, including talent sources, qualifications inventory, and training providers in B.C.
- In July 2021, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI) launched the Innovator Skills Initiative program. The program received \$29 million in funding (\$15 million from the Province; \$14 million from other program partners - Innovate BC, Mitacs and the Information and Communications Technology Council) to support up to 3,000 job placements for under-represented individuals seeking work in the technology sector, including VFX.
 - As of March 31, 2023, program funding will be fully expended.
- In November 2021, PSFS provided \$309,000 to support DigiBC to implement several recommendations of their first project to increase sector visibility, collaboration between post-secondaries and industry, and diversity and inclusion.
- In 2021/22 and 2022/23, PSFS provided \$727,944, for the development of six microcredential programs targeting the creative technology sector, including the VFX industry.
- In Winter 2022, JEDI undertook a skills gap study to identify common skills gaps across the technology sector, including VFX.
- Currently, Creative BC is working closely with industry to implement the Creative Pathways initiative through a \$400,000 contribution from PSFS's Sector Labour Market Partnership (SLMP) program. The project provides resources, networking opportunities and set placements for individuals interested in joining the motion picture industry, including VFX.

Workforce Supply:

- B.C.'s VFX and animation industry has experienced unprecedented growth over the past decade, and particularly in recent years, as the global demand for content has risen exponentially.
- B.C. is facing a labour shortage in the creative tech sector as the demand for talent exceeds supply and the need to develop and attract talent is becoming increasingly important.
 - Companies are relying on international talent to fulfil their workforce needs in order to keep up with the volume of work.
 - Larger VFX and animation studios often require access to large pools of talent, using temporary and permanent work-based immigration streams to meet their needs.
- Immigration policy is the responsibility of the federal government, within the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) led by Minister Sean Fraser.
- In B.C., immigration issues and programming are the responsibility of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
- Federal processing inventories have increased due to operational challenges during the pandemic and overwhelming demand as the pandemic eased.

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- As of mid July 2022, there were 2.7 million people with applications in process across all immigration business lines.
- B.C. is pressing the federal government on immigration processing delays through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Creative and Sport Sector Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CORE MESSAGING – ARTS AND CULTURE

Issue: Overview of the Ministry's Arts and Culture Division.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Arts and culture are critical to the well-being of society and support healthier, more engaged, vibrant and liveable communities.**
- **A strong arts and culture sector contributes to a clean, sustainable economy by encouraging creativity and innovation across sectors and in our workforce: it attracts business investment, increases exports, and directly impacts employment and tourism; it also makes a critical contribution to our mental and physical health, community connectedness and overall quality of life.**
- **Government is committed to ensuring the sustainability of this important sector and continuing its support for those that depend on it for their livelihood, as well as the opportunities it presents.**
- **We support the sector with a range of activities including the administration of funding by the BC Arts Council, the primary arts and culture funding body for the province.**
- **Additionally, we are also working to support the opening of the permanent location of the Chinese Canadian Museum, oversee the future of the Royal BC Museum and advance the establishment of a South Asian museum and provincial Filipino cultural centre.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Arts and Culture Division is responsible for developing policies, delivering projects, and administering programs and funding that empower the arts and culture sector in B.C.
- The Division supports three Ministry mandate commitments:
 - Continue to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones;
 - Work with the Royal BC Museum to engage in a robust consultation with First Nations, British Columbians, and other stakeholders to inform next steps in the Museum's future;
 - With the support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and

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proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian Museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.

- Division operations are managed within the Arts and Culture Division budget.

Support Organizations:

BC Arts Council (the Council):

- The Council is the primary arts and culture funding body for the Province.
- Budget 2023 continues a record high level of support for the BC Arts Council totaling \$39.892 million (subject to BC 150 investment earnings of \$3.795 million). *For further details, see estimate note 50 – Arts and Culture Funding.*
- Grant recipients represent a diverse group of artists and arts organizations from every region of the province, including Indigenous groups, scholarship students, professional artists, and community arts organizations.
- Several grant programs are delivered in collaboration with partners, including the First Peoples' Cultural Council, the BC Touring Council, ArtStarts in Schools, and Creative BC.
- *For further details, see estimate note 48 - BC Arts Council - General.*

Royal BC Museum:

- The Division provides oversight of the Royal BC Museum Crown Corporation. This work includes:
 - supporting the Collections and Research Building project in Colwood; and the public engagement and consultations to inform the future of the Museum;
 - supporting corporate requirements such as annual service planning and reporting and mandate letter development; and
 - serving as the primary contact between the Museum and government.
- *For more information, please see the following estimates notes:*
 - *51 – Royal BC Museum – Overview*
 - *52 – Royal BC Museum – Collections and Research Building*
 - *53 – Royal BC Museum – Downtown Site Redevelopment*
 - *54 – Royal BC Museum – Public Engagement*
 - *55 – Royal BC Museum – Indigenous Repatriation*

Chinese Canadian Museum:

- The Division is responsible for supporting the establishment of a Chinese Canadian Museum – the first museum in Canada dedicated to sharing the stories of the perseverance, resilience, and contributions of Chinese Canadians.
- The Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Arts and Culture is a Provincial appointee to the board of the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of BC.
- The Museum is located in Vancouver Chinatown and expected to open in July 2023, to coincide with the 100th Anniversary of the *Chinese Immigration Act*.
- *For further details, see estimate note 49 – Chinese Canadian Museum.*

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE ARTS AND CULTURE KEY FACTS AND STATISTICS

Issue: Arts and Culture Key Facts and Statistics

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **A strong arts and culture sector contributes to our economy by encouraging creativity, innovation, technological development, business investment, exports, direct employment, and tourism.**
- **A strong arts and culture sector also supports mental and physical health, community connectedness and overall quality of life.**
- **In Canada, British Columbia ranks 3rd largest in cultural sector employment, performing arts attendance rates, and cultural Gross Domestic Product and has more artists per capita than any other jurisdiction in the country.**
- **Budget 2023 provides \$42.791 million (subject to investment earnings) to support arts and culture in every corner of B.C.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Sector Statistics

- B.C. has the 3rd largest culture Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment in Canada, after Ontario and Quebec.
- Culture GDP in B.C. (including the creative industries such as film) totaled \$8.0 billion in 2020 (the most current data we have), a 4.7% decrease from the previous year.
 - The largest contributors to the decrease were the live performance (-\$146.5 million or -30.0%) and audio-visual & interactive media (-\$112.5 million or -3.5%) sub-sectors.
 - Offsetting those decreases was an increase in culture governance, funding, and professional support (+\$60.4 million or +4.5%).
 - As a proportion of B.C.'s total GDP, culture accounted for 2.8% in 2020.
- Jobs in the cultural domain in 2020 accounted for 4.2% of all jobs in the province, more than forestry, fishing and mining combined.
 - There were 102,579 culture jobs in British Columbia, 9.2% lower than the previous year in part due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Economy-wide jobs decreased by 9.9% in the same time period.

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- Statistics Canada reports from the 2021 Census that B.C.'s labour force is composed of:
 - 39,700 artists or 1.4% artists¹, the highest concentration in Canada; and
 - 4.7% culture workers², the second-highest concentration in Canada, next to the Yukon.
- The arts and culture sector is composed almost exclusively of non-profit organizations of which approximately 60% are small (under \$500,000 annual operating budget).
 - These organizations are highly dependent on public support for sustainability.
- Pre-pandemic, British Columbia had the third-highest performing arts attendance rate in the country (38.9%), just below the levels in Quebec (39.8%) and Ontario (39.6%). B.C. residents lead the country in theatre attendance (25.6%).

Arts and Culture Division Supports

- The Division base budget is \$38.561 million from Budget 2023 with additional funds of \$4.230 million subject to investment earnings, for a total of \$42.791.
 - The BC Arts Council budget of \$39.892 million (subject to investment earnings) supports arts and cultural activities throughout B.C. This budget includes a base amount of \$36.097 million and \$3.795 million in investment earnings from the BC150 Cultural Fund.
 - An additional \$2.464 million supports the Cultural Services budget with \$0.435 million is provided (subject to investment earnings) from the Arts Legacy Fund, for a total of \$2.899 million.
- The BC Arts Council, as the primary arts and culture funding body for the Province, offers funding programs to support: operating assistance; capacity building initiatives; creation and dissemination of arts and culture; building the next generation of artists; arts-based community development; and specialized funding for infrastructure, youth, and touring.
- Annually, the BC Arts Council processes more than 3000 applications and awards 1600-1800 grants. These grants support approximately 600 organizations and 500 individuals.
- The Division supports access and participation in the arts by supporting provincial-wide programs, including: Artsvest, B.C. Family Day, B.C. Culture Days, and the After-School Sports and Arts Initiative.
- The Division supports the development of several large cultural infrastructure projects, including the Royal BC Museum-Collections and Research Building, the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian museum, a Provincial Filipino Cultural Centre, and the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver.

Contact - Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

¹ Nine occupational categories are grouped into "artists"; including actors, authors, artisans, composers, dancers, musicians, other performers, directors, and visual artists.

² Fifty occupational categories are grouped into "culture workers", including job categories in sound recording, publishing, journalism, printing, libraries, architecture, and design (web, graphic, and industrial).

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

COVID-19 ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR IMPACTS & SUPPORTS

Issue: Impacts of COVID-19 on the arts and culture sector and the impact of Provincial recovery supports.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The arts and culture sector was the first to close and the last to reopen through the pandemic. While the entire arts and culture sector was hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, performing arts were disproportionately affected due to the restrictions on live audiences.
- The sector is resilient. Yet while much of the sector is on its way to recovery, significant issues have persisted or emerged, including workforce movement away from the sector and audience hesitancy.
- There is still work to be done, particularly for the performing arts and especially for festivals.
- We have consistently heard from the sector that the multiple funding initiatives provided by this Government over the past two fiscal years have made a real difference.
- The Province has committed to providing \$42.791 million for Arts and Culture in Budget 2023, which includes base budget of \$38.561 million with \$4.230 estimated to be generated from the BC Arts and Culture Endowment, which are subject to market fluctuations.
- Our Government is committed to providing innovative supports for the arts and culture sector to enable organizations and artists to adapt and engage new models and opportunities for a post-pandemic future.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Budget 2023 provides \$42.791 million for Arts and Culture, which includes base budget of \$38.561 million with \$4.230 million estimated to be generated from the BC Arts and Culture Endowment, subject to investment earnings.
- Budget 2022 provided \$42.333 million for Arts and Culture.
- In FY2021/22, Government provided \$87.728 million in targeted funding beyond the budget for the arts and culture sector, which included:
 - \$12.478 million in direct funding for COVID relief, delivered through BC Arts Council.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- \$27.500 million to CCM for operations and the purchase of Wing Sang Building.
- \$0.750 million to First Peoples' Cultural Foundation to support repatriation.
- \$22.000 million to the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver.
- \$25.000 million for the Vancouver Art Gallery new development.

Economic Impacts of the Pandemic

- The scope, duration, and impact of mandatory shutdowns and COVID-19 related restrictions including capacity limits varied across the country, with most regions seeing sharp declines in culture sector GDP as a result.
- B.C. was in the top three provinces that experienced the highest dollar value losses in GDP: Ontario (- \$1.5 billion or -5.4%), Quebec (-\$866 million or -7.2%) and **British Columbia (-\$392 million or -4.7%)**. This is impactful, yet proportionate as B.C also produces the third highest dollar value GDP in the nation for the arts and culture sector at \$8.0 billion.
- COVID-19 disproportionately impacted culture jobs and the arts and culture sector across Canada when compared with other job types and sectors.
- B.C. felt this impact more than any other jurisdiction, as it has more artists per capita than any other jurisdiction and culture jobs making up the largest percent for any jurisdiction in Canada 4.2% of all jobs in B.C.

Economic Recovery (from National Data)

- The spring and summer of 2022 saw renewed cultural and visitor activity as provincial public health orders and restrictions were lifted.
- National data from Statistics Canada's National Culture Indicators shows that the overall cultural domain as a whole has seen a steady recovery in GDP and job numbers, based on the difference between Q4 2019 and Q3 2022.
- Arts and culture areas that are recovering on the national level include film and video, broadcasting, interactive media, books, music publishing, and architecture and design.
- The areas that have seen partial recovery on the national level include the performing arts, festivals and celebrations, and sound recording.
- Across Canada, the Gross Domestic Product for the live performance sector was badly hit by the pandemic, being 46.6% lower in the second quarter of 2020 than in the second quarter of 2019. But by the second quarter of 2022, it has made a near-complete recovery, with GDP being less than 2% lower than 2019 Q2 totals.



- The areas of the arts and culture sector that have seen limited recovery on the national level include newspapers and periodicals.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- The live performance sector, include the performing arts, festivals and celebrations, and sound recording like newspapers and periodicals are also impacted by consumer preferences and technological change that compounds their recovery
Advice/Recommendations
- Staff are continuing to monitor economic indicators and other sources for the sector to continue to respond to pandemic-related impacts and needs.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Issue: Cultural Infrastructure funding and major commitments overview.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Arts and cultural spaces inspire, enable creativity and innovation, and enrich, bring together, and support healthy communities.
- Arts and cultural organizations and artists need spaces that are safe, affordable and accessible with the security to create, program, present, and connect with audiences across the province.
- That is why we continue to invest in cultural infrastructure through mandate commitments and programs like the BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure Program which supports small and medium sized capital improvement projects, specialized equipment acquisition, and planning and consultation processes.
- In addition, our Government has taken the lead on the development of key community projects like Canada's first Chinese Canadian Museum in Vancouver Chinatown – the official opening of which I am looking forward to this summer.
- And we are committed to developing more cultural spaces including a museum for the South Asian Community, a provincial Filipino cultural centre and the Collections and Research Building for the Royal BC Museum which is now moving to the implementation phase.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Cultural Infrastructure Overview

Since 2020, our government has:

- Doubled support for arts and culture spaces with \$4 million a year in support to the BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure Program;
- Supported the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver with a \$25 million contribution for new childcare spaces and housing for families;
- Invested \$50 million toward the redevelopment of the Vancouver Art Gallery;
- Invested \$38.5 million (includes \$1 million provided to the City of Vancouver to support the establishment of the CCM) to establish Canada's first Chinese Canadian Museum in B.C.; and

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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- Allocated \$270.021 million in capital funding to the Royal BC Museum Collections and Research Building. Total project cost approved is \$290.355 million.

Mandate Letter 2022 arts and culture infrastructure commitments:

- Continue to support the Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones;
- Work with the Royal BC Museum to engage in a robust consultation with First Nations, British Columbians, and other stakeholders to inform next steps in the Museum's future;
- With support from the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre.

For more detail on the Royal BC Museum see notes #51, #52, #53, #54, and #55.

For more detail on the Chinese Canadian museum see note #49.

Arts Infrastructure Program

- The BC Arts Council's annual Arts Infrastructure Program (AIP) was launched in 2020, in response to the 2017 mandate commitment to "establish an arts infrastructure fund to help provide space for B.C. artists".
- Since then, it has continued to be included in TACS mandate letters including in December 2022.
- The program aims to support projects for arts and culture organizations that:
 - Develop spaces through acquisition, renovation, or purchase of specialized equipment;
 - Improve physical, social, and cultural accessibility to arts and cultural spaces;
 - Enhance access to arts and cultural spaces for underserved communities; and
 - Strengthen the sector to develop, operate and sustain arts and cultural spaces.
- Budget 2021 invested an additional \$2 million to expand AIP to a \$4 million annual budget that includes planning as an eligible activity, as well as larger maximum grants for capital improvements (from \$75K-\$250K).
- The program typically has 180 applications with an annual ask of approximately \$9+ million. The \$4 million budget can usually fund about 90 projects.

Current / Pending Projects

- In 2022, the Provincial Government added \$50 million to its previous \$50 million commitment in 2018 for a total \$100 million for a new facility for the Vancouver Art Gallery.
- The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria has been planning for a major renovation and/or new location for many years and has held since 2018 \$6 million from the Province for this work. Current plans are to consider inclusion in the former lands owned by Capital Iron, a retailer formerly located on Wharf Street in Victoria.
- Other cultural infrastructure projects are also looking for support such as a replacement facility for the Nanaimo Art Gallery, Maritime Museum of B.C., the Vancouver Dance Centre, a First Peoples' Cultural Centre, the Métis Nation of BC's Amelia Douglas Institute for Métis Culture and Language, as well as multiple asks for regional and Indigenous cultural centres from communities across the province.
- The Ministry continues to track potential projects as well as innovative cultural infrastructure models such as the newly established Cultural Land Trust as we become aware of them.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

BC Arts Council – General

Issue: BC Arts Council support for arts and cultural development.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Our government supports arts and cultural activity and participation through a significant investment in the BC Arts Council.**
- **The BC Arts Council supports the sector and provides grants to organizations and individuals in over 200 B.C. communities, with a budget of \$39.892 million (subject to investment earnings from the BC 150 Culture Fund sub-account, estimated at \$3.795 million for this upcoming fiscal year).**
- **Our government recognizes that arts and culture is critical to the health and well-being of communities, especially as we continue to recover from the pandemic.**
- **Support for arts and culture through the BC Arts Council ensures that artists and organizations can thrive in our communities.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The BC Arts Council was created in 1995 pursuant to the *Arts Council Act*. It is the primary arts and culture sector grant funding body for the province and supports arts and cultural activity in over 200 communities across B.C.
- The BC Arts Council offers funding programs to support a range of arts and cultural activity, including support for:
 - Annual operating assistance; capacity building initiatives; creation and dissemination of art; building the next generation of artists; arts-based community development; and specialized funding for infrastructure.
- Funding programs aim to develop and foster arts and culture in B.C., contributing to community vitality, livability and resilience.
- Budget 2023 offers support for the BC Arts Council through an appropriation of \$36.097 million and an additional \$3.795 million (subject to investment earnings) from the BC 150 Culture Fund sub-account (part of the BC Arts and Cultural Endowment Special Account), totaling \$39.892 million.
- 2023/24 base budget increased \$282,000 due to central funding provide for the Shared Recovery Mandate (funding for salary increases associated with the new BCGEU collective agreement and excluded staff salary increases).

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

Fiscal Year	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Base Budget	\$21.850	\$23.598	\$28.618	\$33.776	\$33.706	\$35.815	\$35.815	\$36.097
BC150 Fund	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795
Total*	\$24.000	\$25.748	\$30.768	\$35.926	\$37.501	\$39.610	\$39.610	\$39.892
*Total includes grants, administration and salaries								

- Since FY 2016/17 the BC Arts Council budget has increased by approximately \$15 million as a result of base budget lifts and increased endowment earnings.
- The BC Arts Council has up to 15 members, intended to broadly represent the regions, cultural diversity, and artistic communities of B.C.
 - Members are appointed by Order in Council on recommendation of the Minister and endorsement by Cabinet.
 - The Chair and Vice Chair are also designated by Order in Council.
- Program development, operations, communications, policy development, and secretariat support of the Council are provided by ministry staff.
- The BC Arts Council's partnerships with First Peoples' Cultural Council, ArtStarts in Schools, BC Touring Council, and Creative BC support the Council's reach into communities and access important creative networks across the province.

Strategic Vision

- In July 2018, the BC Arts Council launched a strategic plan, *New Foundations: 2018-2022*.
 - The plan was informed by sector wide consultation and included four strategic directions:
 - Sustainability and Creative Development
 - Indigenous Arts and Culture
 - Equity, Diversity and Access
 - Regional Arts and Community Arts
- In April 2022, BC Arts Council extended its strategic plan and launched *Extending Foundations: Action Plan for the BC Arts Council 2022 - 2024* to support the sector through a period of renewal and recovery as it emerges from the health, economic, social, and cultural impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and addresses calls for social justice.
- This plan was informed through engagement with the sector including roundtables held by Parliamentary Secretary D'Eith in the summer of 2021 and 2022.
- Significant progress has already been made on *Extending Foundations* including:
 - Launching a capacity building program for equity and regional organizations;
 - Creating an equity advisory network to centre Indigenous and equity-deserving voices;
 - Providing increased flexibility and accessibility in program intakes;
 - Increasing access through outreach and accessibility supports;
 - Completing a fairness review of assessment and decision making processes; and
 - Balancing historic funding patterns.
- Planning and development have started for BC Arts Council's next strategic vision with engagement and further consultation with the arts and culture sector including engagement hosted by Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film, Bob D'Eith, and Council.
- The new strategic vision will launch in 2024.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CHINESE CANADIAN MUSEUM

Issue: Establishment of the Chinese Canadian Museum (CCM).

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Our Government is committed to establishing a Chinese Canadian Museum; since 2018, we have invested a total of \$38.5 million (includes \$1 million provided to the City of Vancouver to support the CCM) to establish a Chinese Canadian Museum.**
- **The Chinese Canadian Museum is Canada’s first museum recognizing the robust and significant contributions of Chinese Canadians to British Columbia and Canada, both past and present, and will feature stories from across the province, including the shared history with Indigenous Peoples.**
- **The Museum is expected to open their permanent home to the public in July 2023, to coincide with the 100th Anniversary of the *Chinese Immigration Act*.**
- **Instances of racism towards the Chinese community and anti-Asian sentiment during the pandemic reinforce the need for a museum that honours this community’s contributions to our province.**
- **My mandate letter reaffirmed this ongoing commitment and includes working in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Establishing a Chinese Canadian Museum has been a Provincial commitment since 2018, and the December 2022 Minister’s mandate letter reaffirms this ongoing commitment by directing the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) to “with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives” Mable Elmore (PS Elmore) “work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre”.
- In 2018 the Province provided \$1 million to support a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Vancouver to explore UNESCO designation for Vancouver Chinatown, and to advance early work and planning for a Chinese Canadian museum.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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- The Chinese Canadian Museum Society of B.C. was incorporated on March 13, 2020, as a non-profit society to advance development and operations.
- The Society has a 16 member board (up to 20 members plus past chair permitted) to govern the museum, including one appointee from the Province (up to two government appointees permitted) and one appointee from the City of Vancouver.
- On March 27, 2020, Society and the Province entered into a Shared Cost Agreement which provided \$10 million in funding to the Society with two specific components:
 - \$2 million to be used by the Society to establish and operate the museum; and
 - \$8 million for an endowment where the earnings will support activities.
- Since incorporating in March 2020, the Society has made significant progress towards the establishment of the museum. Key milestones include:
 - Opening its temporary exhibition space at 27 E. Pender St.;
 - Hiring of five full-time employees;
 - Development of the thematic plan for the museum;
 - Developing the Society's first three-year strategic plan;
 - Producing a catalogue for *A Seat at the Table: Chinese Immigration and British Columbia*;
 - Launching temporary exhibitions in Victoria's Fan Tan Alley in February 2022: *First Steps: Chinese Canadian Journeys in Victoria* and *Gold Mountain Dream!*
 - Acquiring the historic Wing Sang building as the museum's permanent location in February 2022 with a Government announced of \$27.5 million to the Society to establish the Museum's permanent location: \$25.5 million for acquisition of the Wing Sang building and closing costs, and \$2 million for ongoing support for operations;
 - Receiving a \$7.8 million donation from the purchase price of the building from philanthropist and former Wing Sang Building owner Bob Rennie;
 - Receiving charitable status designation for the Society in April 2022;
 - Opening two new exhibitions: *Seeds to Success: Story of the H.Y. Louise Family* and *A Tale of Two Families: Generations of Intercultural Communities and Family* in May 2022;
 - Selecting inaugural Director and CEO Dr. Melissa Karmen Lee in October 2022;
 - Receiving a \$1.1 million gift in October 2022 from the Society's Board Chair Grace Wong, her husband Richard K. Wong and family;
 - Other significant donations include \$1 million from the Lam Family (former BC LG David Lam's family); and \$2.8 million from Viviane Poy (Canada's first senator of Asian heritage and now retired). These donations are scheduled to be announced on March 2, 2023.
 - To date the Museum has raised \$2.3 million, a strong start to a \$25 Million goals
- The Ministry will also support the renovation required for opening and provide interim support for sustainable long-term operations. This includes \$4 million for operations over 2 fiscal years, \$5 million in capital, approval to repurpose \$1.95 million in remaining closing costs. **Note: TBC expected March 8th**
- The museum is currently in the process of recruiting multiple full-time staff including Associate Curator, Museum Assistant, Gallery Manager and Finance/Office Coordinator.
- The Society is working to open the Wing Sang Building in July 2023 with a temporary exhibition titled *The Paper Trail* commemorating the 100th anniversary of the *Chinese Immigration Act* (also known as the Chinese Exclusion Act).

Contact - Claire Avison, Arts and Culture

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

ARTS AND CULTURE FUNDING

Issue: Arts and Culture Investments and Initiatives.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Through Budget 2023, our Government is providing \$42.791 million for Arts and Culture:**
 - **\$38.561 million in Ministry appropriation; and**
 - **\$4.230 million from the BC Arts and Culture Endowment special account, subject to investment earnings.**
- **This funding supports a range of programs and provincial initiatives to encourage:**
 - **Artist creation and dissemination;**
 - **Participation and access to the arts;**
 - **Cultural infrastructure development; and**
 - **Development of the sector and its artists and cultural practitioners.**
- **Funding supports over 600 arts and culture organizations and hundreds of artists and cultural practitioners in every corner of B.C.**
- **Our Government is committed to ensuring the sustainability of this vibrant and important sector, and continuing to support those that depend on it for their livelihood.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Budget 2023 provides a total budget to the Arts and Culture Division of \$42.791 million (subject to investment earnings discussed below).

BC Arts Council Funding

- The total annual BC Arts Council budget is \$39.892 million. Since FY 2016/17, the BC Arts Council base budget has increased by approximately \$15 million as a result of base budget lifts and increased endowment earnings.

Fiscal Year	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Base Budget	\$21.850	\$23.598	\$28.618	\$33.776	\$33.706	\$35.815	\$35.815	\$36.097
BC150 Fund	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795
Total*	\$24.000	\$25.748	\$30.768	\$35.926	\$37.501	\$39.610	\$39.610	\$39.892

*Total includes grants, administration and salaries

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Cultural Services Funding

- The total annual Cultural Services base budget is \$2.464 million. For fiscal year 2023/24, the Cultural Services base budget has increased by \$0.176 million.

Fiscal Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Base Budget						\$2.288	\$2.464
ALF Fund	\$0.350	\$0.350	\$0.350	\$0.435	\$0.435	\$0.435	\$0.435
Total*						\$2.723	\$2.899
*Total includes grants, administration and salaries							

Endowment Funds

- The **B.C. Arts and Cultural Endowment Special Account** contains two sub-accounts:
 - The BC 150 Cultural Fund**, which allocates funding on the recommendations of the BC Arts Council in support of the arts; and
 - The Arts Legacy Fund**, which is used for the creation, development, or presentation of works of art at events or venues that will provide significant exposure of those works of art.
- This year, these endowment funds are budgeted to add \$4.230 million (subject to investment earnings) in funding to support the arts and culture sector.
- The funding will be directed towards grant programs or initiatives aligned with the purposes of the funds.

Fiscal Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
BC 150 Fund	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$2.150	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795	\$3.795
Arts Legacy Fund	\$0.350	\$0.350	\$0.350	\$0.435	\$0.435	\$0.435	\$0.435
Total	\$2.500	\$2.500	\$2.500	\$4.230	\$4.230	\$4.230	\$4.230
*in Millions							

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Budget 2023 provides \$42.791 million with the following breakdown:
 - \$36.097 million BC Arts Council base budget
 - \$3.795 million from the BC150 Cultural Fund (subject to earnings)
 - \$2.464 million for the Cultural Services budget
 - \$0.435 million from the Arts Legacy Fund (subject to earnings)

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

ROYAL BC MUSEUM – OVERVIEW

Issue: Royal BC Museum.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Through the provincial archives, exhibitions, and educational programs, the Royal BC Museum tells the story of the people, places and history of our province.
- The Royal BC Museum is one of our province's greatest cultural icons, having welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.
- The renewal of the Museum's ageing infrastructure to maintain the safety of the collections it holds on behalf of all British Columbians has been a long-standing commitment by this government.
- This commitment has resulted in a \$270.021 million capital investment in the Collections and Research Building which will be built in Colwood to LEED Gold standards using an all-electric energy solution and mass timber construction to protect the museum's vast collection, protecting our province's shared history, and improving access to the B.C Archives for Indigenous Peoples and British Columbians.
- A 3-year province-wide phased engagement plan was launched in January 2023 by the Royal BC Museum to help inform the future of the museum; the downtown site remains open to visitors with expanded programming planned for later this Spring.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Royal BC Museum (the Museum) was founded in 1886 and incorporated the BC Archives as a Crown corporation in 2003 under the current *Museum Act*. Under the Act, the RBCM is mandated to:
 - Communicate knowledge of the human and natural history of British Columbia through research, exhibitions, publications and web-based media and learning programs.
 - Hold and make accessible these collections for current and future generations of British Columbians.
- The Ministry provides oversight of the Museum, including issuing mandate and budget letters, and annual service planning and reporting.
- The Province provides annual operating funding to the Museum, approximately 52% of the operating budget. This annual grant has been stable for more than a decade. In fiscal

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

2023/24, the operating grant will be \$12.721 million, an \$855K increase for the Shared Recovery Mandate.

- The *Museum Act* permits the establishment of an 11 member Lieutenant Governor in Council appointed board, 5 of which are appointed in consultation with the Chair of the Board. The Board currently has 5 vacant positions.
- The Museum holds a significant collection of Indigenous Peoples' cultural items, ancestral remains, and residential school records, many of which Indigenous communities are actively seeking access to, repatriation of, or stewardship agreements around.
 - For additional information see *#55 Royal BC Museum – Indigenous Repatriation*

Modernization and the Downtown Site

- See *#53 Royal BC Museum – Downtown Site Redevelopment* and *#54 Royal BC Museum – Public Engagement*

Modernization and the Collections and Research Building

- See *#52 Royal BC Museum – Collections and Research Building*

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

ROYAL BC MUSEUM – COLLECTIONS AND RESEARCH BUILDING

Issue: Status of the Royal BC Museum's (RBCM) Collection and Research Building

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The RBCM Collections and Research Building (CRB) will play a vital role in protecting the museum's vast collection, protecting our province's shared history, and improving access to the B.C. Archives for Indigenous Peoples and the public.
- The CRB will house the Royal BC Museum's collections and research department, the BC Archives, provide dedicated research labs and learning spaces and provide opportunities for British Columbians to access the vast provincial collections.
- Currently less than 1% of RBCM's collection is accessible to the public.
- \$270.021 million capital investment has been approved to build the CRB in Colwood using an all-electric energy solution and mass timber construction.
- We will continue to be transparent and accountable on our investments to ensure the safety of RBCM's invaluable collections.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Collections and Research Building

- In July 2020, the Collections and Research Building (CRB) was approved with a budget of \$177.4 million and Treasury Board directed the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) to report back prior to proceeding with procurement.
- In September 2020, the province announced the purchase of a 3.2-hectare (eight acre) site located in the Royal Bay development in Colwood with a purchase price of \$14 million.
- In May 2021, the CRB procurement was approved with a revised capital budget of \$224.4 million.
 - The \$47.3 million budget lift reflected an additional 20 years of collections storage growth capacity, an all-electric energy solution and mass timber construction.
- The Request for Proposals was released in October 2021, but when the financial submissions from proponents were significantly higher than budgeted, the Project Executive Board approved:
 - A six-month extension to the procurement; and

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

- The project team to undertake scope modifications as well as a review of commercial terms that were driving risk and associated cost and subsequently invited revised technical and financial submissions in better affordability alignment.
- The total capital budget represents a \$45.634 million increase from the amount approved in June 2021. The increases are primarily a reflection of:
 - Escalation on the design-build contract;
 - Extended project schedule, increasing planning, procurement, and implementation costs;
 - Revised quotes from BC Hydro and Risk Management Branch on the utility upgrade costs and course-of-construction insurance, respectively;
 - Higher unrecoverable GST because of a larger capital budget; and
 - Inclusion of the public art budget for the CRB, previously combined into the downtown site redevelopment public art budget.
- The total project cost is \$290.355 million:
 - \$270.021 million capital (\$204.884 million DB contract).
 - \$20.334 million one-time project costs.
- A design-build contract for \$204.884 million was executed with the successful proponent, Maple Reinders Construction Ltd. (working with Michael Green Architecture Inc) on Feb. 17, 2023.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE ROYAL BC MUSEUM – DOWNTOWN SITE REDEVELOPMENT

Issue: Royal BC Museum – Downtown Site Redevelopment.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The Royal BC Museum is one of our province’s greatest cultural icons, with a history of welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors each year (pre pandemic and third floor closure).
- We committed to taking action to ensure we protect our collective history, not just for this generation but for generations to come.
- We made choices based on the best information we had, and we thought we had it right. It became clear that we did not.
- We heard from the people of BC that we were making the wrong decision at the wrong time.
- That’s why in June, the Premier announced that we were stopping the project and going back to the drawing board.
- In January 2023, the Museum began the first phase of a broad 3-year community engagement to hear what British Columbians want to see at the Museum and the future of the downtown site; I am looking forward to the results and to hearing the voices of all British Columbians.
- We know this is a priority, and we know with these public engagements, we will get it right.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Royal BC Museum (the Museum) has been at its current location since 1967 and has not been substantially renovated in over 50 years.
- The Museum’s vast collections have outgrown its current facility and the buildings no longer meet today’s accessibility, seismic or building code standards.
- As such, the Province committed to renewing the Museum in the 2019 and 2020 Throne Speeches and in the Minister’s 2020 Mandate Letter.
- From 2018 to 2020, a business case was developed for a two-site delivery model for the modernization of the Museum: a Collections and Research Building (CRB) in Colwood and replacement of the downtown facility.

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- Between April 1 and June 27, 2019, TAC and the RBCM consulted with British Columbians, asking how a modern provincial museum could most effectively collaborate with, and tell the stories of, B.C.'s diverse communities with the results in a What We Heard report and "Indigenous Voices: A Report on Indigenous Community Engagement on the Modernization of the Royal BC Museum Report," both released in October 2019.
- On November 3, 2021, RBCM announced it would close its third-floor core galleries, including the Old Town, and the First Peoples Gallery to increase cultural safety and ensure the museum is a welcome place for everyone, as well as to address health and safety issues. This announcement started the process of decanting, leading to a full closure of the third floor on January 2, 2022.
- The announcement generated substantial negative media attention and public reaction suggesting the museum was attempting to erase European settler history, both in mainstream media and on social media platforms.
- Complete closure of the third floor occurred January 2, 2022.
- On March 16, 2022, the business case to build a new museum at the downtown Victoria location was approved, and has since been proactively released.
- On May 13, 2022, Premier John Horgan announced that a new, state-of-the-art museum would be built with an investment of \$789 million from the Province. The announcement included the museum's planned closure on September 6, 2022, for 8 years.
- This news led to public criticism. A public poll was conducted which indicated that 70% of British Columbians did not support the current plan for modernization.
- On June 22, 2022, Premier John Horgan announced the Province would suspend its plan to modernize the downtown museum site until broad public engagement is completed.
- Following the decision not to close and rebuild the downtown site pending further engagement, the Museum has remained open, offering opportunities to enjoy the remaining galleries, webinars, pop-ups, travelling exhibits, and online learning.
- The Museum has publicly announced plans to re-open parts of the third floor for exhibition and expand programming beginning in June 2023.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE ROYAL BC MUSEUM – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Issue: Royal BC Museum – Public Engagement.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Royal BC Museum has started a robust public engagement process on the future of the museum by asking British Columbians about their hopes and priorities for the museum.**
- **British Columbians throughout the province should feel a sense of belonging, ownership and pride about the museum and the stories it shares.**
- **In-person and virtual sessions are being facilitated so that as many ideas and as much feedback as possible can be gathered from a broad range of people.**
- **The museum is heading into this phase with open minds, not only to share information but to really listen.**
- **I encourage all British Columbians to share their views on what the Royal BC Museum should be now and into the future.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Need for New Facilities

- The Royal BC Museum (the Museum) has been at its current location since 1967 and has not been substantially renovated in over 50 years.
- The Museum's capacity to house and attend to its vast collections is strained and the buildings no longer meet today's seismic, accessibility or building code standards. The collections have outgrown the available space and the permanent exhibits are outdated.
- The buildings were designed to host 100,000 visitors a year. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, RBCM hosted more than 880,000 visitors annually.
- The Province committed to renewing the Museum in the 2019 and 2020 Throne Speeches and in the Minister's 2020 Mandate Letter.
- From 2018 to 2020, a business case was developed for a two-site delivery model for the modernization of the Museum, which has been publicly released.

Public Consultation (2019)

- Between April 1 and June 27, 2019, the Province and the Museum consulted with British Columbians, asking how a modern provincial museum could most effectively collaborate with, and tell the stories of, B.C.'s diverse communities. Government supported seven public meetings in five communities (Victoria, Vancouver, Kelowna, Prince George and

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Duncan); a province-wide virtual meeting; and Museum-led focused engagement sessions with Indigenous peoples. Government also hosted an engagement website that garnered a total of 5,182 visits and 177 online comments.

- The results of this engagement were communicated in a What We Heard Report and in Indigenous Voices: A Report on Indigenous Community Engagement on the Modernization of the Royal BC Museum Report, both released in October 2019.

A Three-Year Province-Wide Public Engagement Framework

- On June 22, 2022, Premier John Horgan announced the Province would suspend its plan to modernize the downtown museum site until broad public engagement is complete.
- The Museum developed a 3-year province-wide phased engagement framework to determine the future of the museum.
- The first phase of community engagement began on January 12, 2023, with information and dialogue sessions and online survey.
- Phase 2 will consist of further dialogue and engagement throughout B.C., which will be summarized and presented in a public, final report in November 2024.
- Depending on the results of Phase 2, either a third phase of engagement will begin to collect more information or an action plan for the renewal of the museum will be created.

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

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ROYAL BC MUSEUM INDIGENOUS REPATRIATION

Issue: Royal BC Museum Indigenous Repatriation.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- I was so happy to witness parts of the ceremony celebrating the return of the totem pole belonging to the Nuxalk (new-HAWK) Nation this past February.
- Returning ancestral remains and cultural belongings is essential for true and lasting reconciliation.
- The Royal BC Museum continues to work with Indigenous communities in the repatriation of their ancestral remains and cultural belongings.
- We are working across our government and with the Federal government and all our partners to support repatriation.
- We are guided in this repatriation work by *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and our government's commitment to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In September 2016, the Province contributed \$2 million to Royal BC Museum (the Museum) over three years for repatriation activities, including grants for communities to engage in repatriation of cultural items, digital repatriation projects and the creation of Canada's first repatriation handbook for Indigenous Peoples, by Indigenous Peoples – a collaboration with the Haida Gwaii Museum at Kay Llnagaay (released in March 2019).
- The Museum continues to work closely with Indigenous communities on the repatriation of ancestral remains, burial belongings, cultural treasures, documentation and records of intangible cultural heritage such as photo collections and audio/video recordings from its collections and other museums.
- The Museum will continue to implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) Action Plan (Declaration Act Action Plan) in the coming years, including Action 4.34:
 - Reset the relationship between the Royal BC Museum and Indigenous Peoples in B.C. by ensuring that Indigenous voices are prioritized and inform the development of narratives, exhibitions and learning programs.

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- Action 4.34 will be affected by Action 4.33 which tasks the Province with co-developing an Indigenous-led policy framework to support repatriation initiatives, potentially setting renewed expectations, guidelines, stewardship models and agreements for the Museum's collections.

In July 2022, the Museum hired a Vice President of Engagement and DRIPA Implementation and is positioning its Indigenous Collections and Repatriation department to align with the *Declaration Act* Action Plan and ensure repatriation is prioritized:

Nuxalk Totem Pole Repatriation:

- In October 2019, Hereditary Nuxalk Chief Snuxyaltwa Deric Snow visited the Museum with a delegation and provided a letter requesting the Museum to repatriate a Nuxalk totem pole currently in the Museum's First People's Gallery.
- In January 2022, Nuxalk Hereditary Chief Snuxyaltwa filed a notice of civil claim against both the Province and the Museum seeking repatriation of the totem pole that is displayed in the Museum's third floor galleries and alleging the Province has breached both its fiduciary duty and the DRIPA by failing to repatriate the totem pole. The Ministry of the Attorney General filed a response to the civil action.
- In August 2022, a letter was received from the plaintiff's council providing a copy of a recently passed Band Council Resolution setting out that Chief Snow is the proper person for the museum to consult with regarding the totem pole.
- The Museum worked on repatriation plans and meetings with Chief Snow, the Museum, TACS and legal counsel occurred throughout Fall 2022.
- The Museum successfully worked with the Nuxalk Nation to repatriate the totem pole from the Museum to the Nation's territory near Bella Coola with the pole being removed from the third floor of the museum on February 13, 2023.
- The Museum committed to paying for all the costs associated with removing and shipping the totem pole to Bella Coola along with supporting some of the community travel and ceremonial costs. **Note: Costs to be confirmed.**

Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People; Intergovernmental Communications

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JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Issue: Status of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver redevelopment project.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Re-developing the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver will support safe, vibrant and engaged communities, address racism, and make life more affordable for families in Metro Vancouver.**
- **The new facility will offer cultural and learning spaces, including a theatre, art gallery and performing arts school, as well as new childcare spaces and affordable housing.**
- **Our Government provided \$25 million to re-develop the centre to meet the needs of this growing community.**
- **Our support has helped the Centre secure a total of \$88 million in private donations to date and an additional \$25 million from the Federal Government.**
- **This project brings communities together, keeping them safe, informed and vibrant, and makes life more affordable for everyone.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Minister's 2020 mandate Letter included the following commitment: "With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and the Minister of State for Child Care, provide provincial funding to support the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, delivering a new state-of-the-art community centre along with hundreds of new childcare spaces."
- The Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver (The Centre) proposed redeveloping its 3.3 acre complex with a much larger facility at a total estimated cost of \$427 million.
 - **Phase One:** the Community Centre (to be completed late 2024- early 2025) would include arts, culture, health, and recreation facilities, 200 childcare spaces and seniors' services. Estimated cost of \$155 million.
 - **Phase Two:** Rental Housing (to be completed 2028) would include 500-660 mixed-use rental units. Estimated cost of \$272 million.

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The redevelopment project includes:

- Placing the property, valued at approximately \$300 million, into a land trust to secure its use for social and community purposes in perpetuity;
- Providing 500-660 units of rental housing, including social housing;
- Building a new 200,000 square foot state-of-the-art recreational, cultural and community hub, including a new swimming pool, gymnasium, multi-purpose facilities, senior services, a theatre and expanding the Holocaust Education Centre;
- Increasing the existing childcare space to 18,000 square feet and doubling the current capacity to over 200 childcare spaces; and
- Creating a larger seniors centre that will serve over 500 seniors, offering daily fitness, wellness and preventative programs, as well as educational, cultural, recreational and social programs.

Funding

- In 2018 and 2019, the Ministry provided \$400,000 for initial planning and development.
- In March 2021, the Province committed \$25 million to the redevelopment project.
- \$3 million of this commitment was provided as a grant to support permitting and business plan development for Phase One of the project. The release of the remaining \$22 million, under a shared cost agreement, was dependant on the project meeting required conditions including private funding, business case and report back.
- The Province confirmed to the Centre after a required report back and business case was submitted to the Ministry on October 2021, that conditions of the Shared Cost Agreement had been met and the remaining \$22 million was provided in February 2022.
- During the 2021 federal election campaign, the Liberals committed to contribute \$25 million to the Centre redevelopment, if elected. In December 2022, they came through with \$25 million, bring total Government contributions to the project to \$50 million.
- In addition, the Centre has raised \$88 million of a \$161 million philanthropic goal from private sources, including a September 2022 donation from the Diamond Foundation of \$25 million, and in January 2023, the Ronald S. Roadburg Foundation and the Al Roadburg Foundation together donated \$36 million.

Advice/Recommendations

Contact – Claire Avison, Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

SOUTH ASIAN MUSEUM

Issue: Advancing the South Asian Museum mandate commitment.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The contributions of the South Asian community in B.C. are an important part of our province's history and culture.
- South Asian communities have expressed a need for a museum that brings together artifacts, documents, and stories.
- In 2020, Government committed to start work to create a first-of-its-kind museum to document the history, art, and contributions of South Asian people in B.C.
- In December 2022, government reaffirmed its commitment *"to work in consultation with affected communities to advance...a South Asian museum"* and now with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, Mable Elmore.
- I am happy to say we are now planning for the launch of the community engagement to inform this work.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The December 2022 Minister's mandate letter directs the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) to "with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives" Mable Elmore (PS Elmore) "work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian Museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre".
- This commitment has evolved from the 2020 mandate letter which directed TACS to *"start work to create a first-of-its-kind museum to document the history, art and contributions of South Asian people in B.C."*
- The genesis of the museum comes from the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project (2014-2018) and the South Asian Canadian Legacy Project (2020-2022) led by the South Asian Studies Institute supported through funding from the Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch now with the Ministry of the Attorney General.
- Government, through the Multiculturalism Branch, provided \$1.14 million for the South Asian Canadian Legacy Project to support a website, education curriculum supplements, a book, an exhibition, history site inventories, and community specific projects.

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- The approach and initial project funding and corresponding outputs, are similar to that of the Chinese Canadian legacy project, a precursor to developing the Chinese Canadian Museum.
- On November 12, 2021, Minister Mark toured the Sikh Heritage Museum and met with museum proponents and interested MLAs, a follow up meeting was held in early 2022.
- On March 29, 2022, Minister Mark met online with representatives of the South Asian Legacy Project.
- On April 12, 2022, Minister Mark attended the official unveiling of the South Asian Canadian Legacy project products at Surrey City Hall.

Contact – Claire Avison, ADM Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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PROVINCIAL FILIPINO CULTURAL CENTRE

Issue: Commitment to advance a provincial Filipino Cultural Centre.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The contributions of the Filipino community in B.C. are an important part of our province's history, culture and success.
- Filipino-Canadians are the fourth largest visible minority group in Canada and are expected to more than double in number by 2041.
- Parliamentary Secretary Mable Elmore and B.C.'s Filipino communities have been publicly calling for a provincial Filipino cultural centre since 2009.
- The Filipino community in B.C. has expressed a need for a provincial Filipino cultural centre that brings together artifacts, documents, and stories to give people an opportunity to learn more.
- In December 2022, the Province committed to work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including a provincial Filipino cultural centre, and I look forward to doing so with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives Mable Elmore.

If asked about next steps:

- We are in the preliminary planning stages and are working closely with Parliamentary Secretary for Anti- Racism Initiatives Mabel Elmore to start work on a provincial Filipino Cultural Centre.
- The next steps will include community engagement and will be planned in consultation with the Filipino community.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The December 2022 Minister's mandate letter directs the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) to "*work in consultation with affected communities to advance emerging museum programs and proposals including the Chinese Canadian Museum, a South Asian museum, and a provincial Filipino cultural centre*" with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, Mable Elmore (PS Elmore).
- PS Elmore is the first B.C. MLA of Filipino heritage and has been an advocate for the Filipino-Canadian community in Vancouver, who have been calling for a Filipino cultural centre since her initial election as an MLA in 2009.

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- PS Elmore has stated publicly that a Filipino cultural centre could be modeled on the Japanese-Canadian Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre in Burnaby, a multi-use space offering exhibitions, community programs and events.
- PS Elmore has publicly proposed a location in the Marine Gateway area, near the Marine Drive Skytrain station in South Vancouver.
- The National Pilipino Canadian Cultural Centre (NPC3) formed in 2019 to establish a national Filipino-Canadian cultural centre as a home for learning about Filipino languages, histories, traditions, values arts, and cultures and provide language programming.
- Separate from NPC3, the Mubuhay House Society (MHS) is a recently incorporated registered non-profit society formed to develop and operate intercultural spaces highlighting the contributions of the Filipino-Canadian community.
- In June 2022, MHS alongside PS Elmore and MHS board member and co-founder Macario “Tobi” Reyes, CEO & President of for profit PortLiving development company, announced plans for the building of a Filipino cultural centre in Vancouver.
- In December 2022, the Mubuhay House Society, in partnership with NPC3 and the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning, consulted with 57 representatives from the Filipino-Canadian community in Vancouver to identify the gaps and needs relating to cultural space. The vision is a centre that supports artistic and cultural production and fosters social sustainability, including performance and exhibition space, a dance & martial arts training centre, language school, innovation/tech hub industrial kitchen, non-profit community offices, childcare spaces, affordable housing, and a seniors centre.

Contact – Claire Avison, ADM Arts and Culture Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

CORE MESSAGING - SPORT

Issue: The role of Sport in society.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **British Columbia is a recognized leader in sport participation, athlete excellence and event hosting.**
- **We all have seen the positive difference sport can make in people's lives.**
- **That is why our government invests \$50 million annually in sport (\$22M from my Ministry and \$28M from Community Gaming Grants, Ministry of Municipal Affairs), to help provide safe and equal opportunities to participate in sport.**
- **Nearly 800,000 British Columbians participate in sport, with many more pursuing active living and recreational sport. This number makes us the most physically active province in Canada.**
- **Investment in sport helps to:**
 - **Promote healthy living, which leads to better physical and mental well-being;**
 - **Contribute to community economic development by providing jobs and generating revenue for small businesses; and**
 - **Build social capital by bringing people together and fostering community.**
- **We will continue to support the sport sector so everyone can experience the benefits of participating in sports.**

KEY FACTS

Sport Participation

- Independent studies have confirmed that British Columbia residents are the most physically active in Canada.
- Initiatives such as KidSport, the BC Sport Participation Program (BCSPP) and the Afterschool Sport and Arts Initiative (ASSAI), and support provided to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC) reach under-represented population groups:

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- \$1.7 million in grants are provided to more than 7,000 kids each year through 41 KidSport chapters in B.C.
- Just under \$1 million was provided to support more than 70 programs in more than 70 communities across B.C. through the BC Sport Participation Program in 2022/23.
- \$1.6 million is invested in ASSAI, which allows over 10,000 students to participate in 22 school districts across the Province.
- \$1.4 million is provided to ISPARC annually to deliver regional action plans, including youth camps, and training and coaching programs for Indigenous athletes.
- Announced in 2022/23, the Province is investing \$3.6 million in the RISE program to help children and youth in and from government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities.
-
- viaSport oversees a large portion of government's investment in the sport sector, and uses research, initiatives, and campaigns to bring attention to the barriers to participation often faced by under-represented populations.

B.C. is a Recognized Leader in Athlete Excellence

- Our government supports B.C. athletes on their journey through the sport system – from the playing field to the podium.
- Excellence in sport contributes to pride in community and provincial identity.
 - British Columbians comprise 13 per cent of Canada's population, but our athletes represent over 25 per cent of Canada's national team.
- B.C.'s annual investments in world-class training environments include:
 - \$1.6 million to the Canadian Sport Institute (CSI) Pacific to support programs and services delivered in partnership with Own the Podium;
 - \$1.6 million in Enhanced Excellence grants to provincial sport organizations that are achieving top results; and
 - \$2.0 million to the BC Games and Team BC to give young athletes the opportunity to compete in a multi-game environment.

B.C. is a Recognized Leader in Sport Event Hosting

- Top competitions attract visitors to our Province, have a positive economic benefit for local businesses and residents and build B.C.'s reputation as a global destination for premier sport events.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport & Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE KEY FACTS AND STATISTICS (+ SECTOR OVERVIEW)

Issue: Key Facts and Statistics on Sport in British Columbia.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Province invests more than \$50 million annually in sport:**
 - the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport provides approximately \$22 million; and
 - the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' Community Gaming Grants program provides approximately \$28 million.
- **We make these investments because we know sport makes a positive difference in people's lives.**
- **Sport also helps the economic health of communities with the sector contributing \$957 million to GDP¹ and 14,558 jobs² in 2020.**
- **Communities also benefit from sport event hosting with \$1 million in investments from the Hosting BC and the Major Events Program.**
- **In 2021/22, this investment benefited 39 communities in hosting 108 sporting events.**
- **To make sport more diverse and inclusive, we also invest in programs that boost participation of people traditionally under-represented in sport.**
 - **In 2022/2023, 30,150 children from population groups typically under-represented in sport³, were reached through targeted sport programs.**
 - **These young people are reached through the programs from the Indigenous, Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), KidSport BC, and the After School Sport and Arts initiative (ASSAI) and RISE grants.**

¹ Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220602/t001b-eng.htm> Data released May 2022.

² Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/corporate/publications/general-publications/culture-satellite-account.html#a2h> Data released June 2, 2022.

³ Under-represented groups include Indigenous, low income, girls and women, newcomers to Canada, and people with disabilities.

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- **The RISE grant program had its first intake in June 2022. Between June and December 2022, the program supported 254 kids to play sports and participate in cultural activities.**

Membership data:

- **I am proud to report that in terms of membership in provincial and disability sport organizations, we are almost back to pre-pandemic membership rates.**
 - **Pre-pandemic, there were 800,000 members of provincial and disability sport organizations.**
 - **At the end of 2021, there were just 500,000 members.**
 - **And current data shows we are back to pre-pandemic levels with nearly 800,000 members in provincial and disability sport organizations.**
- **That is a testimony to the resiliency of leaders and volunteers throughout the sport sector and to the recovery funding our government was able to provide.**

KEY FACTS

B.C.'s Investment in Sport:

- The Province of B.C. invests more than \$50 million annually in sport through:
 - TACS (\$22 million)
 - Community Gaming Grants (\$28 million).
- Approximately \$22 million of the TACS sport budget is distributed to the sector:
 - \$15.37 million to viaSport to distribute for:
 - \$13.52 million to Provincial Sport Organization for annual funding and sport sector application grants and funded initiatives. Specifically, this funding consists of:
 - Provincial and Disability Sport Organizations (\$8.9 million).
 - Multi-Sport Organizations (\$3 million) – CSI Pacific, BC Sports Hall of Fame and Museum, SportMed BC and the Regional Alliance.
 - Grant application programs (\$1.6 million) – Hosting BC, Sport Participation.
 - \$1.84 million in operating costs
 - \$1.4 million to the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council
 - \$2.2 million for the BC Summer and Winter Games and the 55+ BC Games.

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- \$0.4 million to Sport BC to support KidSport BC.
- \$2.25 million in funding directly administered by the Ministry including:
 - the After School Sport and Arts Initiative (\$1.4 million).
 - the Major Events Program (\$0.5 million).
 - the BC Sport Participation Program (\$0.35 million).

Economic Impact:

- B.C. has the second highest sport GDP and employment in Canada (after Ontario), while leading the country in sport GDP per capita.
- Sport contributed \$957 million to B.C. GDP and 14,558 jobs in 2020.
- The BC Winter and Summer Games typically generate \$2 million in economic benefits for local host communities.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

COVID-19 – SPORT SECTOR IMPACTS & SUPPORTS AND OUTCOMES

Issue: Sport Sector support as we emerge from COVID-19.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- Our government continues to support B.C.'s sport sector recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.
- The pandemic's impact on the sport sector was significant with many sports organizations losing revenue because they had to cancel or postpone events and programs.
- We recognize that the pandemic resulted in the loss of many participants, advocates and community champions in sport.
- However, the COVID relief support provided by our government ensured that no provincial sport organizations had to close, which limited job losses in the sector and ensured continued programming.
- We are also proud of the work the sector did on the restart guidelines that allowed people to continue to play sports in some form throughout the pandemic.
- We are seeing the value of these investments as people return to playing sports; participation rates are nearing pre-pandemic levels.

Supports

- Our government recognized financial challenges faced by B.C.'s sport sector, which is why, in partnership with viaSport and ISPARC, two new funding programs were launched in 2022/23 to help the sector recover.
- Government is providing \$4 million in post-pandemic recovery funding, through the Rally Together Fund, to reignite the amateur sport sector by rebuilding sport membership and bolstering volunteerism.
 - The Rally Together Fund is comprised of the Sport Participation and Sport Volunteer Grants, with a total funding envelope of \$4M. This fund is supported by the Province of B.C. and administered through viaSport.

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- The first \$2 million program focuses on kick-starting sports by rebuilding membership in provincial and disability sport organizations. This fund will support initiatives that focus on recruiting participants of all ages, and offering more inclusive and accessible program options.
- The second \$2 million program will support the recruitment, retention and training of volunteers such as coaches, referees, event coordinators and equipment managers who play a crucial role in the success of many clubs.
- As we recover from COVID, we want to increase participation for groups that have traditionally been under-represented in sport.
- That is why we created the RISE Grant Program. This multi-year program invests \$3.6 million to help young British Columbians who are in or from government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities.
 - RISE stands for Resilient, Inspire, Strength and Engage.
 - It will provide direct financial support to young people over the next five years, enabling them to participate in sports and cultural activities.
- These new programs are in addition to initial recovery efforts that included:
 - Accelerated year-end funding:
 - When all sport was suspended in our Province, we accelerated year-end funding to help sport organizations manage cash flow issues;
 - Amateur Sport League Fund:
 - In March 2021, we launched a \$15 million fund for B.C. based amateur sport leagues and teams to help with operational costs; and
 - Local Sport Relief Fund:
 - In Fall 2020, we launched a \$1.5 million fund to help local sport organizations meet the challenges of the pandemic and sustain their operations.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

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KEY FACTS

Rally Together Fund:

- Rally Together was developed to provide one-time recovery funding for amateur sport organizations that have experienced a decline in membership and volunteer participation due to COVID-19.
- Non-profit provincial, disability and multi-sport organizations that are accredited, recognized, or affiliated with viaSport and their local member sport organizations are eligible to apply.
- Individual grants will range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for local organizations, and \$15,000 to \$35,000 for provincial organizations.
- Grants were awarded based on needs, impact and scope of the proposed projects. Examples of eligible projects include programs that promote accessibility and inclusion to under-represented populations, and incentivize volunteerism through subsidized training or development opportunities.
- The grant intake ran from Sept. 24 to Nov. 4, 2022.

RISE Grant Program

- The Province is investing \$3.6 million to give equal opportunities with the new RISE Grant Program.
- Young people in and from care face barriers that limit their participation in sport and other activities. Financial barriers, such as sport registration fees, and practical challenges, like transportation to and from practices, can become obstacles.
- Grants up to \$1,000 annually will help individuals cover costs for registration, equipment and travel for sport, physical and cultural activities.
- Grants up to \$10,000 are also available for organizations to develop and deliver programs for children and youth in and from care.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Division

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PATHWAYS TO SPORT: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Issue: Update on B.C.'s *Pathways to Sport - a Strategic Framework for Sport in British Columbia 2020-2025*.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The Pathways to Sport Strategic Framework is the Province's vision of quality sport opportunities for all British Columbians.
- The Framework lays out how sport can help support the social and economic wellbeing of communities across the province.
- It is the Province's first public-facing sport framework developed in the past several decades and was developed in consultation with the sport sector.
- The Framework was launched in March 2020, just before the start of the pandemic.
- Despite having to pivot and prioritize pandemic response, we continue to have goals of a provincial sport system that is safe, accessible, and inclusive.
- With representatives from across the sport sector, we are working to:
 - support over 30 actions for athlete and community development listed in the Framework;
 - prioritize actions to further support the sector's re-build; and
 - monitor our progress through an evaluation.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Framework was released on March 12, 2020 and is based on three key priority areas:
 - increasing sport participation;
 - strengthening athlete development; and
 - enhancing sport event hosting opportunities for B.C. communities.
- The Framework builds off the Province's strong network of coaches, officials, administrators, and volunteers who provide support to more than 798,000 British Columbians that belong to sport organizations.
- It also recognizes the success that B.C.'s high performance athletes continue to have, and the ability of communities throughout the Province to host world-class sporting events.

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- The Framework sets a path to help make the provincial sport system more accessible, affordable, safe, and inclusive through key actions to reach population groups traditionally under-represented in sport, including:
 - People with disabilities;
 - Lower income families;
 - Indigenous peoples;
 - Immigrants and new Canadians;
 - Older adults; and
 - Girls, women, and non-binary genders.
- The Framework includes 32 actions developed over several years in consultation with the sector.
- Key performance measures have been identified, which will be tracked to evaluate progress. They include:
 - Membership in funded Provincial Sport Organizations;
 - Number of coaches trained and certified in B.C. by gender;
 - Number of organizations that have completed the *Commit to Kids* training at the Board and leadership levels; and
 - Percentage of female board members and sport leaders.
- viaSport is leading the evaluation work with oversight from the TACS Sport branch.

COVID-19 Recovery:

- As the Province continues to recover from the pandemic, the Ministry continues to engage with sport organizations to discuss steps to help the sector re-build.
- This involves working with the Multi-Sport Organization Leadership Council to develop a revised implementation plan for the Sport Framework that will help guide the Ministry, and the sector, as it continues to recover from the pandemic.
 - The Multi-Sport Organization Leadership Council includes organizations such as viaSport, Sport BC, the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC), Canadian Sport Institute Pacific, and the BC Games Society.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport & Creative Division

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VIASPORT OVERVIEW

Issue: Overview of viaSport key programs and services.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **viaSport is the main service delivery partner for the government's investment in the amateur sport sector.**
- **Through an annual funding agreement, viaSport supports key provincial initiatives such as:**
 - **administration of core funding for provincial sport organizations;**
 - **development and implementation of a provincial Safe Sport initiative; and**
 - **support for implementation of government's *Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sport in B.C.***
- **viaSport continues to play a key role in supporting the sport sector recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, including the administration of the \$4 million Rally Together Fund.**
 - **The Fund was developed to provide one-time recovery funding to amateur sport organizations that experienced a decline in membership and volunteerism.**
- **I look forward to continuing my collaboration with viaSport and other organizations in the sector, as we work together to rebuild the sport sector.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- viaSport operates as an independent non-profit organization that supports more than 70 provincial sport organizations across the Province.
- In 2021/22, provincial sport organizations provided programs and services to more than 798,000 provincial sport organization members.
 - Membership increased 60% from 500,000 in 2020/21.
- Sport organizations include:
 - Over 50 Provincial Sport Organizations (e.g., BC Soccer Association);
 - 7 Disability Sport Organizations (e.g., BC Wheelchair Sports); and
 - 12 Multi-Sport Organizations (e.g., Canadian Sport Institute Pacific and SportMed BC).
- viaSport administers \$15.4 million in annual funding on behalf of the Ministry under an agreement that sets out the purpose of funding and reporting requirements.

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- The government's annual agreement with viaSport is informed by government priorities, mandate letters and the Ministry's annual Service Plan.
- viaSport supports key provincial initiatives including:
 - administration of a range of grant programs, including Hosting BC;
 - development and implementation of Play Safe BC; and
 - implementation of *Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sport in B.C.*

Contact - Kim Lacharite, Sport & Creative Division

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

BC GAMES SOCIETY OVERVIEW

Issue: BC Games Society funding and background.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The BC Games Society oversees the BC Winter and BC Summer Games and Team BC's participation in the Canada Summer and Winter Games.**
- **These Games provide developmental opportunities for athletes, coaches and officials in preparation for higher levels of competition.**
- **BC Games also provides important economic and tourism benefits, enabling host cities to profile their communities and benefit from an economic impact in the range of \$1.6 million to \$2 million.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The BC Games Society is incorporated under the *Societies Act* and reports to the ministry as a Crown service-delivery agency.
- Alison Noble is the Society's President and CEO. She oversees nine staff members.
- The Society's board is comprised of 15 board members which includes an ex officio member from the Sport Branch.
- The BC Summer and Winter Games each take place every two years.
 - **BC Winter Games** (on average) – 19 sports, up to 2,100 participants (1,500 athletes, 350 coaches and managers and 250 officials) and 2,000 volunteers.
 - A \$550,000 provincial grant goes to the BC Winter Games host communities.
 - **BC Summer Games** (on average) – 18 sports, more than 3,700 participants (2,800 athletes, 550 coaches and managers and 375 officials) and 3,000 volunteers.
 - A \$625,000 provincial grant goes to the BC Summer Games host communities.
- Athletes range in age from 9 – 19 years with an average age of 14.
- For some athletes, the BC Games represent the highest level of multi-sport competition they will participate in. Others may advance to the Canada Games, national teams and international competitions such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Upcoming Games:

- The next BC Games will be the Vernon Winter Games, which will take place March 23–26, 2023.
- In 2023/24, the Society will support the planning and/or delivery of:
 - Lhato Quesnel 2024 BC Winter Games (February 22–25, 2024); and

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- Maple Ridge 2024 BC Summer Games (July 18–21, 2024).
- BC Games Society will also support planning and preparation for the next Canada Summer Games, which will be hosted in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador (August 8–24, 2025).
- Future BC Games have been awarded to:
 - Trail-Rossland 2026 BC Winter Games (February 19–22, 2026); and
 - Kelowna 2026 BC Summer Games (July 23–26, 2026).

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT ESTIMATES NOTE

Sport Event Hosting – Funding Programs

Issue: B.C.'s \$3 million annual investment in sport event hosting

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **B.C. has a strong reputation for hosting exceptional sport events.**
- **We have welcoming and inspiring locations with world-class infrastructure.**
- **Hosting sport events stimulate the economy, provides athletes with development opportunities and builds social capital in communities.**
- **In 2022/23, B.C. has supported 139 events in 44 communities, representing an investment of more than \$3 million in hosting.**
- **Hosting regional, provincial and national level events builds expertise and capacity, enabling communities in B.C. to host larger and more prestigious international events.**
- **We want to continue to attract events that make a strong economic impact and leave lasting sport legacies for communities.**

KEY FACTS

- Hosting events has a substantial benefit for the economy and community development. The pandemic caused most event hosting to be cancelled in 2020 and 2021. As such, the most recent data we have is from 2019, which shows that:
 - In 2019, sport tourism contributed more than \$1.7 billion to B.C.'s economy.
 - The 2019 World Junior Hockey Championships in Vancouver and Victoria generated \$43.8 million in economic activity and a \$23.4 million boost to GDP.
 - The BC Winter Games and BC Summer Games typically generate an economic impact of \$2 million.
- Sport event hosting contributes to provincial sport participation and high-performance objectives by providing valuable, competitive opportunities for B.C. athletes and by raising the profile and reputation of sport.
- Sport event hosting contributes to the broader social and cultural development of communities and helps to improve quality of life and well-being.
- The Province's annual \$3.2 million investment in sport events is distributed through three funding streams:
 1. BC Winter Games and BC Summer Games and the annual 55+ BC Games: \$2.2 million annually to host biennially.
 2. Hosting BC - \$500K annually to help sport organizations and communities host regional, provincial and national level sport events.
 - Program is administered by viaSport.
 - In 2021/22 Hosting BC supported 108 events in 36 communities including

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- 2022 BC Water Ski Provincials, Williams Lake (\$2K)
 - 2022 U SPORTS Women's Rugby Championship, Victoria (\$5K)
 - 2023 Nordiq Canada Selection Trials, Prince George (\$10K)
 - 2023 Canadian National Track & Field Championships, Langley (\$12K)
3. Major Events Program - \$500K annually for national and international single-sport events such as world championships and world cups.
- Program is administered by TACS.
 - In 2022/23, the Major Events program supported eight events with grants ranging from \$40K to \$100K.
 - 2022 Luge World Cup, Whistler (\$60K)
 - 2022 Bobsleigh World Cup, Whistler (\$60K)
 - 2022 Parasnowboard World Cup, Big White (\$40K)
 - 2023 World Junior U23 Nordic Championships, Whistler (\$60K)
 - 2023 Scotties Tournament of Hearts (Curling), Kamloops (\$100K)
 - 2023 World Wheelchair Curling Championships, Richmond (\$60K)
 - 2023 Billie Jean King Cup of Tennis, Vancouver (\$40K)
 - 2023 Memorial Cup, Kamloops (\$80K)
- Sport events with the potential to generate a high tourism impact can also access funding through the Tourism Events Program (TEP).
 - Marquee sport events, such as large international competitions and multi-sport games, are evaluated based on their immediate and long-term economic, tourism, and sport benefits, as well as their potential community and social legacies.
 - This assessment is done on a case-by-case basis and involves the analysis of a detailed business plan, budget, legacy plan, economic impact forecast, and confirmation of stakeholder and government support.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors

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ESTIMATES NOTE

SAFE SPORT

Issue: Actions to prevent and address maltreatment in sport.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- B.C. is committed to ensuring all people involved in sport can participate in an environment that is safe, welcoming, and respectful.
- Any harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport is unacceptable.
- Unfortunately, the bad behaviours that we see in society, also show up in the sport sector.
- That is why we have launched PlaySafe BC, in partnership with viaSport.
- B.C.'s Safe Sport initiative focuses on four key areas:
 - Prevention
 - Reporting
 - Response
 - Compliance
- PlaySafe aims to educate people on what is and what is not appropriate behaviour when playing sports.
- Under this initiative, we have:
 - Required all provincially-funded sport organizations to have updated safe sport policies on their websites;
 - Established the B.C. Universal Code of Conduct, which outlines expected and prohibited behaviours for sport in B.C.; individuals who violate the Code of Conduct are subject to investigation and sanctions from their respective sports; and
 - Trained more than 1,000 leaders and board members in “Commit to Kids”, a course educating them on ways to safeguard children.
 - viaSport also offers:
 - Complaint management services through reporting to viaSport directly;
 - Conflict resolution through Sport Law Connect, which offers free alternative dispute resolution services; and

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- **Educational & training opportunities for coaches and staff through the viaSport Learning Centre.**
- **Looking ahead, we are also releasing additional tools this year including the Play Safe videos for youth athletes and guardians, as well as bystander intervention training.**
- **We are also committed to working toward the establishment of an independent mechanism in B.C. by the end of 2023. This is an independent body that will receive and investigate complaints from those that have experienced maltreatment in sport.**
- **Our goal in sport is clear: everyone should have safe, positive, inclusive and accessible experiences while playing sports.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Unsafe behaviour happens along a continuum, ranging from offensive comments to bullying and harassment to sexual assault. Depending on the unsafe behaviour, various processes are in force to address complaints, including criminal prosecution.
- Many athletes have come forward with issues of physical, sexual and psychological abuse. These testimonies have been widely covered by the media, including stories from hockey and gymnastics in Canada.
- Athletes and sport sector leaders have also testified at two federal government parliamentary committees:
 - The Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage held hearings on Hockey Canada's handling of alleged sexual assaults involving the 2018 and 2003 Men's Junior teams.
 - The Standing Committee on the Status of Women is holding a review on the safety of women and girls in sport.
- In B.C., several high-profile cases of sexual abuse in sport have proceeded through criminal courts, including the November 2022 decision to sentence former Whitecaps FC and Soccer Canada coach, Bob Birarda, for sexual assault of female soccer players.

Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FPT) activities:

- In February 2019, Sport Ministers from across the country issued the Red Deer Declaration. The Declaration calls for a coordinated response to addressing and preventing harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport.
- As part of this coordinated response, Sport Canada funded the development of a Universal Code of Conduct to Address and Prevent Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) for the national sport community.
- As of April 2021, Sport Canada requires funded national sport organizations (NSOs) to adopt the UCCMS.

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- The UCCMS supports use of the federally funded Canadian Sport Helpline, a “listen and refer” national tollfree line for individuals to report/get information about maltreatment in sport.
- Provincial and Territorial Sport Ministers also directed their officials to implement the UCCMS as appropriate in their jurisdictions.
- B.C. established the B.C. Universal Code of Conduct, modelled from the federal Code. Funded PSOs must adhere to the Code as a condition of their funding.
- At the February 2023 Sport Ministers’ conference in PEI, ministers from across Canada committed to working towards the establishment of an independent by the end of 2023.
 - Decisions have not been made on what independent mechanism we will be used in B.C. The ministry and viaSport are currently assessing what model will work best for the sport sector.
 - B.C. will be collaborating with jurisdictions across Canada as all provinces and territories work towards this commitment.

Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner

- Also, as part of the coordinated response to the Red Deer Declaration, Sport Canada established the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) in June 2022.
- Sport Canada is providing \$16 million in funding to OSIC over three years, starting in 2022.
- The OSIC is responsible for administering the UCCMS by:
 - overseeing a complaint intake process;
 - conducting preliminary assessments and investigations;
 - maintaining a database of imposed sanctions; and
 - monitoring compliance by sporting organizations and issuing reports as required.
- Central to OSIC’s role is the implementation of what is commonly referred to as the “independent, third-party mechanism.” This mechanism gives sport participants a process outside of their national or provincial sport organization to report abuse.
- Federal Sport Minister Pascal St-Onge has given NSOs until April 1, 2023 to become full signatories of OSIC.

Safe Sport Progress to Date in B.C.:

- In support of the Red Deer Declaration, the Ministry asked viaSport to develop PlaySafe BC, a provincial Safe Sport initiative.
- The Ministry provided viaSport with \$250,000 in 2019/20 and \$500,000 in 2021/22 to support this work.
- viaSport is currently undertaking sector consultation and developing further Play Safe resources to be rolled out in Q4 of 2022/23 and early in 2023/24.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors

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ESTIMATES NOTE

SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE YOUTH (RISE, ASSAI, KIDSPORT)

Issue: Support for Under-Represented Youth to Participate in Sport.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- One of our Government's priorities is making life affordable for B.C. families.
- This means investing in programs like the new Resilient, Inspire, Strength and Engage (RISE) grant program, KidSport and the After School Sport and Arts Initiative (ASSAI).
- Announced in 2022/23, the Province is investing \$3.6 million in the RISE program to help children and youth in and from government care to participate in sport, physical and cultural activities.
- From learning physical literacy skills to pursuing the high-performance pathway, sport brings people together, builds social connections, creates belonging and provides opportunities for growth and development.
- I look forward to building on programs such as the After School Sport and Arts Initiative and KidSport as sport comes back even stronger to ensure it is inclusive and accessible to everybody.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

RISE Grant Program:

- The RISE Grant Program responds to:
 - The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action #89 and #90;
 - Section 4.6 of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan.
- RISE seeks to enable and promote participation and connect young people to their communities and culture, creating a positive impact in their lives.
- The program provides direct financial support to young people over the next five years, helping them to play sports and participate in cultural activities.
- Grants up to \$1,000 annually help individuals cover costs for registration, equipment and travel for sport, physical and cultural activities. Examples of eligible activities:
 - sports, such as soccer, hockey and basketball;
 - physical activities, such as drop-in fitness or aquafit classes; and
 - cultural programming, such as Indigenous traditional dance, hiking, and art.
- Over 250 youth in and from care received a RISE grant from June to December 2022. Recipients were:

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- 49% (124) male;
- 43% (110) female; and,
- 8% (20) gender diverse
- Regional distribution of RISE grants:
 - 38% (96) Fraser Valley
 - 31% (78) Vancouver Island
 - 15% (38) Interior
 - 5% (12) Vancouver Coastal
 - 3% (7) North East
 - 3% (7) North West
 - 3% (7) Outside of B.C.
 - 4% (9) of applicants were unsure of region.
- Grants up to \$10,000 are also available for organizations to develop and deliver programs for children and youth in and from care.

After School Sport and Arts Initiative (ASSAI):

- ASSAI supports the physical and mental health of children and youth in Kindergarten to Grade 8, and reduces negative behaviours during unsupervised time after school.
- FY 2022/23 Budget: \$1.4 million.
- The Ministry has funding agreements with 22 school districts that select participating schools.
- Youths, who are facing barriers, including financial, geographical, cultural, behavioural, mental or physical, are invited to participate in ASSAI by school staff.
- Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, ASSAI continued to provide in-person, quality sport, physical activity and creative arts opportunities.
- During the 2021/22 school year:
 - Over 8,400 students participated (11% increase from 7,600 students in 2020/21).
 - Of those students over 2,000 self-identified as Indigenous (a 100% increase from 2020/21); and
 - Over 930 ASSAI students have a disability (17% increase from 2020/21).
- In 2019/20, ASSAI launched a pilot program for female high school students:
 - Three school districts (Prince George, Nanaimo and Kamloops) are participating.
 - The program aims to increase participation rates of adolescent females, which is when a drop off in sport participation tends to occur.
- In 2021/22, over 600 teenage girls participated in the high school program (50% increase over 2020/21).

KidSport BC:

- The Ministry provides \$400,000 annually to KidSport BC which is administered by Sport BC.
- KidSport BC is a community-based program that provides grants (up to \$400) for children 18 and under to participate in a sport season of their choice.
- In 2022, KidSport grants supported 5,251 kids (26% increase from 2021), including:
 - 2,079 (39.6%) female;
 - 3,161 (60.2%) male;
 - 8 (0.15%) non-binary;
 - 813 (15.5%) Indigenous children;
 - 720 (13.7%) new Canadians; and,

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- 185 (3.5%) children with a disability.
- Related, in 2018/19, the Ministry provided a one-time \$2.5 million investment to support participation from children under-represented in sport, including children from low income families, Indigenous children, children and youth with disabilities, girls and newcomers to Canada. The funding was used over three years and supported:
 1. KidSport BC and Community Chapters - \$1.65M was allocated to off-set the impacts of COVID-19 on fundraising efforts and to ensure service levels remain consistent with previous years to meet the anticipated demand.
 - Flexibility was provided to Sport BC to use funds to mitigate impacts of the pandemic on KidSport funding in addition to original objectives.
 2. Sport Programs - \$600K supported over 11,000 children to participate in 29 sport programs in 44 communities. Some of the programs funded included:
 - Lacrosse BC – Spirit Lacrosse: The Spirit of Lacrosse program introduces ongoing lacrosse programs within Indigenous communities with the aim of fostering relationships between the Indigenous communities and the local community lacrosse associations.
 - Hazelton Hockey Initiative – Grow The Game: This program enhances accessibility to hockey by providing free or low-cost programming, including hockey equipment and skills sessions, allowing kids to try hockey for the first time. This is a collaboration between Hazelton Minor Hockey Association, BC Hockey, Sport BC, ISPARC and BC Housing to provide community-driven hockey activities for Hazelton and region.
 - BC Adaptive Snowsports - Snowmobility Program: The program provides the opportunity for anyone, including those with physical limitations, to participate in snow sports.

Contact – Kim Lacharite, Sport and Creative Sectors

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ESTIMATES NOTE

FIFA 2026

Issue: Vancouver will host the FIFA 2026 World Cup with financial support from the Province.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- I am thrilled that Vancouver was selected as a host city for FIFA World Cup 2026 matches.
- The World Cup is the largest single sport event in the world—hosting it will be a generational opportunity for soccer fans, our tourism and hospitality sector and all British Columbians.
- Destination B.C. and BC Stats estimate that hosting the World Cup could generate over \$1 billion for B.C.'s tourism sector for the five years surrounding the tournament.
- This is also an opportunity to create legacy benefits for communities.

Costs:

- We are continuing to work with all our partners, including the federal government on updating plans and estimates of revenues and costs for planning, staging and safely hosting FIFA 2026 matches in Vancouver and at BC Place Stadium.
- The City of Vancouver has now estimated that its net incremental costs of planning, staging and hosting FIFA 2026 matches will be \$230 million.
- At the City's request, in January 2023 the government introduced a 2.5% additional Major Events MRDT, applied on purchases of accommodation in the City over seven years, to help pay for the City's expected net costs.
- Our goal continues to be to maximize the benefits of the World Cup, and all Marquee Sport Events, for British Columbians.
- We expect to provide annual public updates on hosting plans, including total revenues, costs and risks. As we move closer to 2026, we will receive more information from FIFA on hosting requirements and we will be updating our plans and estimates accordingly.

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KEY FACTS

Background

- On June 16, 2022, Vancouver was confirmed as a host city for the 2026 World Cup. The event will be co-hosted by three countries: Canada, United States, Mexico.
- Following the announcement, FIFA signed a variety of agreements with the City of Vancouver, Park Board, B.C. PAVILION CORPORATION (PavCo) and Vancouver International Airport (YVR).
- Forty-eight countries will compete in the tournament, with an estimated five of the group matches taking place at BC Place stadium (Note: group matches occur earlier in the tournament and given that the seating capacity at BC Place is just 50,000, it likely will not meet FIFA requirements for quarter final or final matches).
- Toronto is the other Canadian FIFA World Cup host city and, as such, will also receive federal funding under the Federal Policy for Hosting International Sport Events.
- Destination BC and BC Stats have estimated that the World Cup may bring more than 260,000 visitors to Vancouver.
- Canada Soccer has also committed to hosting at least five international, high-profile soccer matches in Vancouver over the next three years leading up to the World Cup.

Financial Impact

- Hosting marquee sport events creates opportunities to provide significant profile and international exposure and bring new international visitors to B.C., helping to achieve long-term economic and social benefits that will provide lasting legacies.
- This includes advancing legacies in: tourism and economic development; sport, physical activity and health; arts and culture; environmental sustainability; human rights, equity, inclusion, diversity and anti-racism; and Indigenous participation and reconciliation.
- Preliminary estimates by Destination BC (DBC) and BC STATS showed that hosting FWC 2026 could attract approximately 269,000 visitors to Vancouver and bring in well over \$1 billion in revenue for B.C.'s tourism sector during, and in the five years following, the event.
- Early total event cost estimates by the Province assessed the five Vancouver matches to cost between \$240 - \$260 million.
- These costs would be offset by contributions from the Government of Canada, the City of Vancouver, FIFA rental fees, local marketing revenues and the new additional Major Events Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT). ***Questions related to MRDT should be referred to the Minister of Finance.***
- Total event costs are expected to increase in 2023.
- The anticipated increase is primarily due to rising inflation rates, additional information expected from FIFA, further safety and security planning and development of activation and legacy costs.
- In 2023, as more details regarding FIFA requirements become known, costs will be refined, allowing for the contribution from the federal government to be finalized.
- In 2022, FIFA introduced a new commercial asset program which allows for host cities to generate their own marketing revenue. The associated sponsorship revenue opportunities are currently under development. B.C. anticipates modest opportunities to generate revenue through this program. Advice/Recommendations

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Advice/Recommendations

Major Events Municipal Regional District Tax

- ***Questions related to MRDT should be referred to the Minister of Finance.***
- In November 2022, the Ministry of Finance introduced and passed legislation to allow for an additional Major Events Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT)—up to 2.5%—on short-term accommodation to generate revenue toward the hosting of large international events.
- As of February 1, 2023, short-term accommodation properties in Vancouver began collecting the additional Major Events MRDT. It is expected to generate \$230 million over seven years.
- An additional MRDT was implemented leading up to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, which helped municipalities cover additional expenses.

Governance

- There are two national organizing committees coordinated by Sport Canada – one executive leadership level and one operational – which include representatives from the federal government, provincial governments (BC and Ontario) and the cities of Toronto and Vancouver.
- Effective coordination is required amongst BC stakeholders and two organizing committees have been established mirroring the national structure. Members include the City of Vancouver, PavCo, YVR and other provincial ministries including FIN and PSSG.

First Nations Engagement

- The Province has had preliminary conversations with the Chiefs of the Musqueam Indian Band and the Tsleil-Waututh Nation as well as with the Chairperson of the Squamish Nation.
- As we plan for this event we look forward to deeper conversations with the Host City Nations and to creating legacy opportunities for communities throughout B.C.

Contact – Jane Burnes, Executive Director, Marquee Sport Events

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ESTIMATES NOTE

2030 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES BID

Issue: The Province of B.C. declined to support an Indigenous-led bid for the 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- The prospect of hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games was exciting to athletes and sport fans.
- Government has the responsibility to weigh the benefits with the costs and possible risks of the project and, based on careful consideration, the Province declined to support a bid.
- There are billions of dollars in direct costs of hosting the Games and the potential guarantee and indemnity liability risks could jeopardize our government's ability to address pressures facing British Columbians right now.
- We have already committed to other large sporting events, such as the FIFA World Cup in 2026 and the 2025 Invictus Games.
- These world class events will bring an international spotlight to British Columbia, as well as economic benefits that support the Province's tourism sector recovery for the next decade and beyond.
- Our government is focused on expanding the services British Columbians need while building a more secure future.
- We remain committed to the important work of putting reconciliation into action and continuing to build strong relationships with Indigenous partners.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On February 1, 2022, a collaboration agreement was signed between the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC), the four Host First Nations (the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and Lil'wat nations), the City of Vancouver and the Resort Municipality of Whistler.
 - All parties agreed to work together on exploring a bid to host an Indigenous-led 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (2030 Games).
- For more than a year, the Province engaged with the collaboration agreement partners to explore and evaluate a potential bid for the 2030 Games.

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- A cross government ADM committee representing nine Ministries was involved in the exploratory work to better understand the estimated benefits, costs and risks of hosting the 2030 Games.
- On June 14, 2022 the partners released a broad Hosting Concept for the 2030 Games based on a feasibility assessment.
 - Initial financial estimates were released on July 8, 2022 showing a total cost of \$3.5 billion to \$4.0 billion to host the Games.
- On June 24, 2022 the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport sent a letter to the partners requesting specific information about the bid.
 - On August 12, 2022 the Minister met with the Host First Nation leaders to discuss both the bid and the information required by the Province to make a decision.
 - The partners provided some of that information on August 15, 2022.
- On October 12, the Four Host First Nations submitted a Hosting Proposal to the federal, provincial and municipal governments for consideration and a request for support.
- The Ministry of Finance estimated that the financial cost and risk to B.C. could exceed \$2 billion and that the estimate could potentially increase over time. This includes:
 - The provincial share of costs for capital construction, public safety and security, essential services, legacy endowments and other game-related activities.
 - The financial risks include required indemnities and potential guarantees for insuring other parties against any losses.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- On October 27, 2022, the Province announced that based on careful consideration, it was declining to support a bid for the 2030 Games.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- On November 21, 2022 the COC and CPC wrote an open letter to elected officials on British Columbia expressing their disappointment in the process and the lack of discussion. They asked the Province to sit down with all partners and explore the potential of the project.
 - On December 5, 2022 the Minister replied indicating that the decision made by Cabinet was binding and would not be revisited.
- On December 6, 2022 the IOC announced that a decision on a host of the 2030 Games had been postponed and no jurisdictions were invited to Targeted Dialogue. The IOC is further studying the landscape of winter sport and has not set a timeline for decisions.
 - Salt Lake City, USA and Sapporo, Japan were the other two jurisdictions interested in bidding.
- British Columbia has now secured the rights to host the 2024 Grey Cup, the 2025 Invictus Games and the FIFA World Cup Games in 2026. A bid for the 2027 North American Indigenous Games is also underway.

Contact - Kim Lacharite, Assistant Deputy Minister, Sport and Creative Sectors

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ESTIMATES NOTE

MARQUEE SPORT EVENTS ROUND-UP

Issue: Provincial role, funding, and status of 2024 Grey Cup, 2025 Invictus Games, FIFA 2026, 2027 NAIG and 2030 Olympic/Paralympic Games.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Marquee sport events are internationally recognized major sporting events that promote B.C. globally as a prime destination while stimulating economic growth and promoting tourism visitation, sport development and community engagement.**
- **B.C. is an attractive host destination for sport events due to our world-class facilities, suitable climate and geography, and a wealth of hosting capacity and expertise.**
- **Hosting marquee sport events creates opportunities to bring in new international visitors to B.C., helping to achieve long-term benefits.**
- **The Province has an impressive line up of marquee events confirmed to take place in B.C. in the next three years.**
 - **2024 Grey Cup at BC Place in Vancouver**
 - **2025 Invictus Games in Vancouver and Whistler**
 - **2026 FIFA World Cup at BC Place in Vancouver**
 - **In addition, the Tkémelúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops) Nation is bidding for the 2027 North American Indigenous Games.**
- **B.C.'s investment in events of this scale is a major step in continuing to build a vibrant and resilient tourism sector and economy.**

If Pressed on the Olympics:

- **The Province declined to support the Indigenous-led bid to host the 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. These Games required billions of dollars in costs and risks would have jeopardized the ability of government to address pressures facing British Columbians today.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Marquee sport events such as major multi-sport games are evaluated by assessing the economic, tourism, and sport benefits and potential community and social legacies.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

- This assessment is done on a case-by-case basis and includes the analysis of a detailed business plan, budget, legacy plan, economic impact forecast, and confirmation of stakeholder and government support.
- Hosting marquee events aligns with TACS' recovery mandate and supports the *Stronger BC Economic Plan and Pathways to Sport: A Strategic Framework for Sports in BC 2020-2025*.

2024 Grey Cup, Vancouver

- The 2024 Grey Cup will take place at BC Place for the first time since 2014.
- This annual championship event of the Canadian Football League is a national celebration that attracts visitors and viewers from across the country.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

2025 Invictus Games, Vancouver, and Whistler

- Over 550 competitors and 1250 support staff, friends, and family from 25 nations will meet in Vancouver and Whistler, February 6-17, 2025, for the first-ever winter edition of the Invictus Games.
- The Province is working closely with the Vancouver Whistler Games Corporation, as the organizing committee, to ensure recognition of the provincial investment, leverage provincial priorities, collaborate on legacy initiatives, and ensure sound governance and event management practices.
- In April 2022, the Province approved a \$15M commitment (\$1M in 2022/23, \$1.5M in 2023/24, \$12.5M in 2024/25) for the 2025 Invictus Games.

FIFA World Cup (FWC) 2026

- On June 16, 2022, Vancouver was selected as an official Host City for the FWC 2026.
- Following the announcement, FIFA signed a variety of agreements with the City of Vancouver (CoV), Park Board, PavCo and YVR.
- The CoV is in the early stages of event planning and the 2026 budget will continue to be refined as planning progresses. The CoV will continue to work with the Province and other agencies to deliver the event cost-effectively.
- In March 2022, the Province estimated the total costs of planning, staging, and hosting the FIFA World Cup 2026 matches at approximately \$240 to \$260 million. This included both the City and BC Place Stadium costs.
- These costs will be offset by contributions from the government of Canada, the City of Vancouver, FIFA rental fees, local marketing revenues and the new additional Major Events Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT).
- Event hosting costs are expected to increase in 2023 due to inflation, anticipated additional capital costs resulting from additional information provided by FIFA, further safety and security planning and development of activation and legacy costs.
- In 2023, as more details regarding FIFA requirements become known, costs will be refined, allowing for the contribution from the federal government to be finalized.
- The CoV and Province will be providing annual public reporting on the costs of hosting this event and TACS and FIN are working closely with all federal and municipal event partners to maximize the long-term economic benefits of hosting this event for B.C.

TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

ESTIMATES NOTE

North American Indigenous Games 2027 (proposed event in the bid stage)

- The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) are a celebration of Indigenous sport and culture, featuring 16 sport competitions over eight days and drawing participants from across North America.
- NAIG typically involves up to 6,000 participants inclusive of athletes, coaches/managers, chaperones, and cultural performers. Approximately 3,000 volunteers support the Games.
- NAIG is also a key event in the development of young Indigenous athletes and coaches and represents the pinnacle of interprovincial/territorial sport and cultural celebration.
- NAIG creates lasting legacies of new and enhanced relationships and facilities, cultural awareness, volunteers, and leadership development.
- In 2022, NAIG Council launched a bid process to determine which Province or Territory in the Western Canada region (B.C., AB, SK, YK, N.W.T.) would host NAIG 2027.
 - Each Province/Territory is only permitted to submit one candidate host city for consideration.
- In August 2022, the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (ISPARC) launched a provincial host community selection process for B.C. communities interested in hosting NAIG 2027.
- At the conclusion of the selection process, ISPARC established that the B.C. bid community would be Tkémelúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops) nation.
- B.C.'s final bid package is due to NAIG Council on March 10, 2023, and the successful host community will be announced in July 2023.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Bid to host the 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

- After careful consideration, in October 2022 the Province declined to support the Indigenous-led bid to host the 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.
- Planning and hosting an event of this magnitude and complexity requires significant attention and resources by all levels of government.
- The Province has already committed to other large sporting events, such as the FIFA World Cup in 2026 and the 2025 Invictus Games
- These world class events will bring the international spotlight to B.C., as well as economic benefits to support the Province's tourism sector recovery for the next decade and beyond.
- The government remains committed to the important work of putting reconciliation into action and continuing to build strong relationships with Indigenous partners.

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