

**Courtney E. Kirk**

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**From:** MUNI UBCM Meeting Requests MUNI:EX <MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 3:02 PM  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients:  
**Subject:** 2021 UBCM Convention - Provincial Appointment Book and Meeting Request Process for Meetings with Provincial Government  
**Attachments:** 2021 UBCM Provincial Appointment Book.pdf

This message is being sent to all UBCM Member Municipalities, Regional Districts and First Nations on behalf of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

**Subject:** 2021 UBCM Convention - Provincial Appointment Book and Meeting Request Process for Meetings with Provincial Ministries, Agencies, Commissions and Corporations (MACC)  
**Intended Recipient(s):** Mayors/Regional District Chairs/Islands Trust Chair/CAOs  
 and cc: General Email  
 Chiefs and Chief Councillors  
 and cc: Secretaries and Alternates  
**Attachments:** One (1) plus message below

If you have received this message in error, we ask that you please forward it to the appropriate person in your office.

MESSAGE:

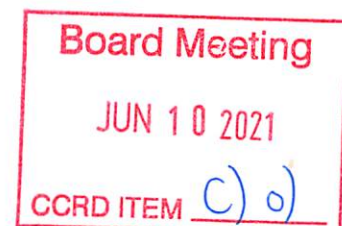
Further to the May 25, 2021 letter from the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs, regarding the 2021 UBCM Convention, I am pleased to attach the 2021 Provincial Appointment Book for your use in requesting meetings with the Premier, Cabinet Ministers, and ministry, agency, commissions and corporations (MACC) staff available to meet with delegates at Convention.

The 2021 UBCM Convention will take place virtually again this year from Tuesday, September 14 – Friday, September 17, 2021. Provincial government meetings will be scheduled the week prior to the UBCM Convention and held via conference call.

- Premier and Cabinet Ministers' Meetings will take place from: Tuesday, September 7 - Monday, September 13, 2021 (as Monday, September 6th is Labour Day).
- Meetings with Provincial MACC staff will take place from: Tuesday, September 7 to Thursday, September 9, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Meeting Coordinators Eri Moriya, by telephone \_\_\_\_\_ or Katie Carrothers, \_\_\_\_\_, or by email \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.





# 2021 PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENT BOOK

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## Meeting Requests with:

The Premier and Cabinet Ministers and  
Provincial Government Staff from Ministries,  
Agencies, Commissions and Corporations (MACC)

Will be scheduled the week prior to 2021 UBCM CONVENTION  
September 7 – 13, 2021

Via Conference Call



Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs





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## INTRODUCTION

This Provincial Appointment Book will provide UBCM local government and First Nations members directions on how to request a meeting with the Premier, Cabinet Ministers and provincial ministries, agencies, commissions and corporations (MACC) program staff, to be scheduled the week prior to 2021 UBCM Convention.

Within this document are three individual links to meeting request forms for meetings with:

1. Premier and Cabinet Ministers;
2. Host Minister Josie Osborne, Municipal Affairs and responsible for local governments; and
3. Provincial Ministries, Agencies, Commissions and Corporations staff (MACCs).

Information on the MACCs available to meet is also included.

All activities are taking place in a virtual format for the 2021 UBCM Convention.

**All meetings for the 2021 UBCM Convention will take place by conference call. Conference call details will be provided when meetings are confirmed.**

### Meeting Dates

Meetings with the Premier and Cabinet Ministers including the Minister of Municipal Affairs will take place by conference call during the following dates:

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021  
to  
Monday, September 13, 2021**

Meetings with MACC staff will take place by conference call during the following dates:

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021  
to  
Thursday, September 9, 2021**

### Provincial Appointment Desk

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding your meeting request, contact:

**Eri Moriya**  
MACC Staff Meeting Coordinator  
Phone: 778 698-1686

**Katie Carrothers**  
MUNI Minister's Meeting Coordinator  
Phone: 236 478-0537

**Email:**  
[MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequest@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequest@gov.bc.ca)



## MEETING REQUEST INFORMATION AND LINKS

**Honourable John Horgan,  
Premier and Cabinet Ministers**  
(except Minister of Municipal Affairs)

Click: <https://UBCMreg.gov.bc.ca>

**Invitation Code: MeetingRequest2021**  
(case sensitive)

**Deadline: Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

**Questions:**

Contact the Premier's UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator, Marlene Behrens by email at: [UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca](mailto:UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca),

or by telephone at: 250 213-3856

**Honourable Josie Osborne,  
Minister of Municipal Affairs**

Click: [Municipal Affairs Minister's Meeting Requests](#)

**Deadline: Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

**Questions:**

Contact the MUNI Minister's Meeting Coordinator, Katie Carrothers by email at: [MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca),

or by telephone at: 236 478-0537

**Provincial Government (MACC)  
Staff**

(Ministries, Agencies, Commissions and Corporations)

Click: [MACC Staff Meeting Requests](#)

**Deadline: Friday, August 13, 2021**

**Questions:**

Contact the MACC Staff Meeting Coordinator, Eri Moriya, by email at: [MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca),

or by telephone at: 778 698-1686

Once meetings are scheduled, confirmation will be sent to UBCM local government and First Nations members.



## PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AVAILABLE DURING THE 2021 UBCM CONVENTION

### MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Finance, Technology and Management Services and Division Responsible for Student Housing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operating and capital grants to 25 PSIs, FTE and PSI financial health monitoring and reporting, Ministry's 10-year capital plan, PSI property acquisition and disposition, manage Ministry budget, maintain Ministry IT systems and digital information security, Administrative Service Delivery Transformation Initiative, lead Ministry's business continuity and emergency response readiness with PSIs. Leading the development of 5000 additional student housing beds on Post-Secondary campuses in B.C.</li> </ul>
<i>Governance, Legislation and Corporate Planning Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-secondary governance, legislation, degree quality assurance, private career training regulation, data and analytical support, audit, institutional accountability, corporate planning, international education, intergovernmental relations, sector labour relations and bargaining.</li> </ul>
<i>Post-Secondary Policy and Programs and Division Responsible for Learner Supports</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25 public post-secondary institutions (PSIs) and their programs including: Indigenous Education, Adult Education, StudentAid BC including the BC Access Grant, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs, health and medical education, student mental health initiatives, and leading strategic policy/liaison function for the sector.</li> </ul>
<i>Workforce Innovation and Division Responsible for Skills Training</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and management of targeted labour market programs and, policies, including the Community Workforce Response Grant and the BC Employer Training Grant, the dissemination of labour market information, and oversight of the Industry Training Authority to help British Columbians advance their skills and employment and support employers to meet their workforce needs.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FISHERIES

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Business Risk Management Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps producers manage risks such as weather hazards, natural disasters, wildlife, diseases, pests and market declines, that cause income losses and lead to financial instability. The Branch delivers three programs to help farmers manage financial risk: Production Insurance - offers insurance protection for agricultural crops against weather perils; Agri-Stability - protects farm enterprises from the financial impacts of significant margin declines which can be caused by increasing input costs or reduced agricultural revenues; and Wildlife Damage Compensation - compensates farmers for losses due to wildlife.</li> </ul>
<i>Corporate, Policy and Priorities Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible for providing corporate planning, resources and services to the Executive and ministry including ministry data reporting and dissemination, policy, legislation, for agriculture and seafood. Also responsible for the ministry's emergency management planning and preparedness activities, develops ministry climate change policy and provides support and coordination on climate related issues.</li> </ul>
<i>Extension and Support Services Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides extension and support services to enhance sector growth, competitiveness, sustainability, and adaptability. Working with industry associations, local governments, academic partners and the farming community, the Branch leads environmental, climate change and traceability programming, supports agriculture planning, provides sector knowledge and technical expertise, facilitates emergency preparedness and response and supports industry to meet existing and emerging market and regulatory requirements.</li> </ul>
<i>Fisheries, Aquaculture and Wild Salmon Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leads provincial efforts to support stable, diverse, and sustainable commercial and recreational marine fisheries, aquaculture operations and seafood processing that maximize social and economic benefits for British Columbians. Staff support the Minister, Parliamentary Secretary and Ministry Executive on provincial, national, and other relevant committees and working groups to develop and advance provincial policy and programs in support of government and industry initiatives on fisheries, seafood and wild salmon issues. This branch ensures that Provincial fisheries, aquaculture and seafood objectives are met by examining, interpreting and applying existing and new policies, and by providing leadership, design and implementation of seafood sector operational programs and projects.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FISHERIES CONTINUED...

<p><b><i>Food and Beverage Branch</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports agriculture, food and beverage sector businesses and organizations through a wide variety of economic development and food system services and programs. Leads market, business, and value chain activities to support food and beverage producers, processors, Indigenous communities, and regional economies as well as key initiatives including Feed BC, Buy BC, and the BC Food Hub Network. Working closely with Ministry branches including Extension and Support Services Branch and other provincial and federal agencies, the branch helps activate and grow the next generation of agriculture and food leaders and Indigenous entrepreneurs, food and beverage production and processing capacity, and market access and diversification of B.C. products into distribution channels including retail, public sector institutions, and export markets. Leads numerous stakeholder partnerships, and policy work including trade and liquor production and processing.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Food Safety Inspection Branch</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for administration, compliance and enforcement of provincial legislation related to slaughter of meat, and food safety related to processing of seafood products, and inspection of farm worker accommodations for COVID protocol compliance. Also responsible for administration of food safety programs for farmers, ranchers and food processors under the federal/provincial/territorial Canadian Agricultural Partnerships (CAP) agreement.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Labour Unit</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works closely with the Ministry of Labour to improve food security and the safety of temporary foreign workers (TFWs) and domestic farm workers (DFWs) in farming communities. The Labour Unit is responsible for ministry oversight, coordination, and direction regarding all labour initiatives, including the agriculture TFW Quarantine Program. The Labour Unit is responsible for developing a comprehensive Agriculture Labour Strategy and action plan which includes all facets of agriculture labour supply, demand, training, accommodations, etc. focused on farm labour currently relying on TFWs and DFWs. The Labour Unit coordinates with other ministries, federal and local government representatives, and industry associations to support labour-related issues and inform future direction and action plans.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Plant and Animal Health Branch</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the sustainability of animal and plant agriculture, while serving to protect the well-being of the people of the province through surveillance, regulatory compliance, risk assessment, and the development of strategies to address identified risks. The Plant and Animal Health Branch consists of three key programs: The Animal Health Centre, the Livestock Management and Regulatory Unit, and the Plant Health Unit.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FISHERIES CONTINUED...

### *Regenerative Agriculture and Agri-Tech Team*

- Works in close collaboration with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation in the delivery of strategies and programs to support innovation and use of technology in the agritech sector to increase food security and support the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries' ongoing efforts to build a safe, sustainable and resilient food system.
- The team is responsible for leading industry engagement, liaison with other levels of government (federal, local, Agriculture Land Commission) and developing a comprehensive strategy to support emerging opportunities for agritech and regenerative agriculture and inform future direction and action plans.

## MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Office of Housing and Construction Standards</i>	
<i>Building and Safety Standards Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildings, Construction, and Technical Systems: The regulatory framework for buildings and technical systems, including development of building, plumbing, fire, electrical, gas, elevator, and energy codes, safety standards for technical systems, homeowner protection (e.g., home warranties), oversight of certain industry professionals and trades (e.g., home builder licensing and mandatory building official qualifications), and policy advice relating to the built environment, including climate leadership and accessibility for new buildings. Liaison with BC Housing Licensing and Consumer Services, Technical Safety BC, Building Officials Association of BC, National Research Council and Accessibility Standards Canada.</li> <li>• Technical requirements for existing buildings related to CleanBC, climate adaptation, and disaster mitigation (e.g. earthquakes, flooding, and wildfires).</li> <li>• Nationally harmonized technical requirements to make new buildings more accessible.</li> </ul>
<i>Homelessness Policy and Partnerships Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homelessness policy and program development such as Rent Banks, Homeless Counts, Integrated Data Project, coordinated encampment response. Leading engagement and facilitation across government with partners and stakeholders towards a more coordinated and effective approach to addressing homelessness as well as leading government's efforts to address homelessness by delivering a homelessness strategy.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING CONTINUED...

<i>Housing and Policy Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing policy and program development, including market and non-market housing, supportive housing and homelessness; liaison with BC Housing, which partners with local government, non-profit and private developers to build affordable housing; legislation governing strata properties, as well as tracking actions in the Homes for BC: A 30-Point Plan For Housing Affordability. Long-term residential leases; Crown grants for housing.</li> </ul>
<i>Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Race-based data legislation and new Anti-Racism Act, Multiculturalism Grant program, Legacy Initiatives, Report on Multiculturalism, Resilience BC anti-racism network and provincial coordination on anti-racism and anti-hate initiatives; Multicultural Advisory Council.</li> </ul>
<i>Residential Tenancy Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The regulatory framework for landlords and tenants, including conventional residential and manufactured home park tenancies; information services and disputes resolution for landlord and tenant disputes.</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Child Care Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Child Care Division leads the development and implementation of B.C.'s Childcare BC plan and has operational accountability for government's child care funding programs and registry of Early Childhood Educators.</li> <li>Childcare BC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Spaces Fund</li> <li>UBCM Child Care New Spaces Grants</li> <li>UBCM Child Care Planning Grants</li> <li>BC Maintenance Fund</li> <li>Start-up Grants</li> <li>Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative</li> <li>Affordable Child Care Benefit</li> <li>Child Care Operating Funding</li> <li>Young Parent Program</li> <li>Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Wage Enhancement</li> <li>Funding for ECE Bursaries</li> <li>ECE Registry</li> <li>Aboriginal Head Start</li> <li>Aboriginal / Support Child Development funding/strategy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED...

<p><i>Service Delivery Division</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Delivery Division is responsible for delivering community services to children, youth and families across the province, including adoption and guardianship, child and youth mental health, children and youth with support needs (including specialized provincial services, Autism Information Services, and Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services), child protection and family services, resources, Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities, youth justice and forensics, and supporting youth transitioning to adulthood.</li> <li>• Our professional and support staff work closely with extended families, Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners, foster caregivers, community social service agencies, service providers and ministry partners in pursuit of our ministry's vision.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Strategic Integration, Policy and Legislation Division / Strategic Initiatives</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Strategic Initiatives Branch is responsible for the development of strategic complex, large-scale and cross-divisional projects, including improving supports for youth and young adults transitioning from care, and prevention and family supports. The branch also leads the Service Frameworks for each of these areas.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Strategic Integration, Policy and Legislation Division/ Strategic Integration, CYMH Policy and In-Care Network Branch</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Strategic Integration, CYMH Policy and In-Care Network branch is responsible for identifying opportunities, risks, and system-wide challenges to cross-ministry integration of the Strategic Framework. Strategic Integration leads the research, development, and implementation of the In-Care Service Framework.</li> <li>• Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) responsible for providing evidence-informed prevention and early intervention mental health resources for educators, caregivers and families, as well as developing strategic and operational policy to improve mental health outcomes for children, youth and their families.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Strategic Integration, Policy and Legislation Division/Policy and Legislation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Policy &amp; Legislation Division (PLD) creates and implements strategic and operational policy, manages the ministry's legislation and litigation processes and research programs. Policy areas include child welfare, adoption, child and youth mental health, cross-divisional policy and quality assurance.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED...

<p><i>Strategic Integration, Policy and Legislation Division / Strategic Services</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Strategic Services Branch provides expertise to enable the large-scale, cross divisional and complex transformation envisioned in the Ministry’s Strategic Framework. The branch leads:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strategic planning and engagement – directs planning, reporting, internal and web-based communications and staff engagement;</li> <li>○ Project management and lean services – supports strategic initiatives and continuous improvement; and</li> <li>○ Implementation and change management – champions organizational change and effective implementation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## MINISTRY OF CITIZENS’ SERVICES

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<p><i>Government Digital Experience</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division executes quality public engagement on behalf of various ministries across government, designing services and policies with people affected by them.</li> <li>• Provides technical infrastructure that enables gov.bc.ca and all of its pages, including COVID-19 and vaccination information.</li> <li>• Creates standards to make government’s web site accessible and ensure that the site is easy to navigate and read.</li> <li>• The division also delivers digital policy advice and technology services to Government Communications and Public Engagement (GCPE) to support its day-to-day operations.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Office of Chief Information Officer</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The OCIO supports the transformation of government services through integration, collaboration and innovation. It leads strategy, policy and standards that support digital government and information management including information technology, IT security, integrated data, privacy and the management of the Information Management/IT investment portfolio for the province. The OCIO provides leadership and expertise for the expansion, coordination and provisioning of telecommunications services, vendor management, innovation, and technology that enable the digital transformation of government work environments and communities in every corner of the province. The OCIO is responsible for the province’s technology infrastructure and provides a range of corporate enablers to support digital service delivery and business transformation for government and Broader Public Sector organizations. It provides corporate information management services to government including: Freedom of Information; proactive disclosures of information; privacy, records management and elements of information security.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF CITIZENS' SERVICES CONTINUED...

<p><i>OCIO Connectivity</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NetworkBC provides guidance on planning for telecommunications infrastructure investment to municipal and regional governments and oversees the Connecting British Columbia program.</li> <li>• Connected Communities supports local governments and regional districts by assisting with connectivity planning and helping communities to better understand how to achieve greater economic, environmental, public safety and social benefits enabled through high-speed internet.</li> <li>• Public Safety Broadband is a Canadian initiative led by the federal government to establish a secure, high-speed and mobile wireless communications network. The network can be used by first responders and public safety personnel to communicate, access and share information during day-to-day operations, weather-related incidents, natural disasters, emergencies and major events.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Procurement and Supply</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division plays a leadership role in government procurement and supply services. These activities serve the provincial government, the broader public sector, the public and, in some cases, municipalities. For example, municipalities use BC Bid to provide vendors with information on upcoming procurement operations and Asset Investment Recovery to dispose of municipal surplus assets in a convenient, environmentally friendly manner that returns a fair market value to the municipality.</li> <li>• Procurement Services Branch (PSB) is the lead contact for the Single Point of Access (SPA) initiative; a federal initiative in which all Municipalities, Advanced Education, Schools and Hospitals will be required to post all of their procurement activity on a Single Point of Contact web site so that we comply with the requirements of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). Compliance by all provinces and Territories is required by Sept 2022.</li> <li>• PSB is also the lead for coordinating access to the Federal National Memorandum of Understanding (NMUA) which grants access to Provinces and Territories to numerous Corporate Supply Agreements created by the Federal Government.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF CITIZENS' SERVICES CONTINUED...

<i>Real Property</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Real Property Division provides everything needed to design, set up and manage a government workplace. RPD is responsible for the province's real estate portfolio (excluding schools, post-secondary institutions and hospitals), office space inventory, parking, related legislation, furniture procurement, project and construction management, and real estate services for special-purpose facilities (such as courthouses, laboratories and correctional facilities). RPD provides cost-effective services for environmental management, leasing, facilities management, strategic real estate advice, acquisitions, dispositions and workplace planning. RPD's client base includes ministry (mandated) as well as broader sector (voluntary) customers.</li> </ul>
<i>Service BC</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service BC is government's chief provider of services to B.C. residents and businesses. Through a provincial network of 65 service centres and the Provincial Contact Center, SBC provides approximately 300 government services on behalf of more than 40 partner ministries and agencies. The division enables the design and delivery of accessible, responsive, and cost-effective services, making it easier for residents and businesses to interact with government.</li> <li>Our BC Corporate Registries branch facilitates and supports commerce in the province through administration and verification of business, personal property, and manufactured home registrations. The Provincial Identity Information Management Program delivers trusted, secure identity service to support access to digital government services and information.</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Capital Management Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Capital Management Branch establishes and administers the Ministry of Education's Capital Program, estimated at \$1 billion annually, and includes the following program areas: Annual Facilities Grant, Seismic Mitigation, New and Additional Schools, Replacement Schools, Routine Capital Investment, Building Envelope Program, Bus Replacement Program and the Carbon Neutral Capital Program. The Division establishes the Capital Objectives, the priorities for capital investment across the province through the ministry's Capital Planning process, establishes the Capital Standards, defines the scope of capital investments, establishes contractual relationship with school districts, enforces contractual requirements and processes payments.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION CONTINUED...

<i>Resource Management Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Resource Management Division is responsible for the oversight and management of approximately \$7 billion in operating funding to the K-12 sector; the K-12 funding formula; and school district shared services initiatives. In addition, the division is responsible for the ministry's overall budget and financial oversight and a wide range of corporate services: financial services; strategic human resources; risk management; and planning/reporting.</li> </ul>
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## MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Electricity and Alternative Energy Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division is responsible for British Columbia's electricity and alternative energy sectors, including BC Hydro. These sectors are made up of diverse interests that develop electricity generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure, clean or renewable energy sources, including biomass, biogas, hydrogen, geothermal, hydro, solar, ocean, wind and low- carbon transportation fuels, and advance energy efficiency.</li> <li>• The Division focuses on increasing electrification and energy efficiency across the economy, reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuels, expanding electric vehicle infrastructure, and implementing programs to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors. In association with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the Division has responsibility for policies, regulations and legislation to support legislated short and long-term, province-wide greenhouse gas reduction targets, including: Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act, the Zero-Emission Vehicle Act, the Utilities Commission Act, and the Clean Energy Act.</li> <li>• The Division is responsible for B.C.'s low-carbon energy market transformation, driving a range of actions to support all stages of clean energy development and adoption. The Division also administers the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund, a special account used to further the energy and environmental priorities of the government.</li> <li>• Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE).</li> </ul>
<i>LNG Canada Implementation Secretariat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This division is responsible for the effective implementation of LNG Canada and its associated pipeline, Coastal GasLink by liaising with federal, provincial, municipal governments, Indigenous Nations and the companies on key implementation issues management.</li> </ul>



**MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION  
CONTINUED...**

<p><b><i>Mines Competitiveness and Authorizations Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for managing authorizations, geoscience and policy for the mining cycle from early mineral exploration, development of major and regional mines, and mine closure and reclamation. Supports the competitiveness of B.C.'s mining sector helps position B.C. as an attractive jurisdiction for investment, providing a fair, effective and transparent authorizations, and focusing on regulatory certainty, Indigenous reconciliation and partnerships, world-class geoscience, innovation and leading environmental standards.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division was created in 2019 and is responsible for mine worker health and safety, compliance verification and enforcement, and investigations of serious incidents at mines.</li> <li>• Oversees the regulation of orphaned and abandoned mines.</li> <li>• Manages the ongoing review of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in B.C.</li> <li>• Oversees policy and Indigenous engagement in its core business areas.</li> <li>• The Division includes the Chief Auditor, responsible for conducting audits for regulatory effectiveness.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Strategic and Indigenous Affairs Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports mandate delivery of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) and EMLI's Divisions on its energy, mining and natural gas mandates.</li> <li>• Leads implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI), and the development of policy related to collaborative stewardship with Indigenous Nations, in partnership with other NR ministries.</li> <li>• Supports EMLI efforts to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Nations including: supporting the negotiation of revenue sharing and accommodation agreements and Reconciliation Agreements, engaging with Indigenous Nations on strategic policy matters, and the delivery of the ESI with over 30 northern Indigenous Nations. This work is consistent with Government's objectives under the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and ensures that First Nations actively participate in natural resource development in their Traditional Territories.</li> <li>• Corporate oversight and coordination of policies, intergovernmental relations and reporting requirements by SIAD to ensure that EMLI takes a strategic approach to the delivery of its programs and services.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION CONTINUED...

<p><i>Oil and Gas Division</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Division is accountable for the management and responsible development of the province's oil and gas resources. This includes issuing and administering Crown petroleum and natural gas subsurface tenures, as well as the revenues associated with those tenures; incenting infrastructure that supports resource development and contributes to lowering carbon intensity; undertaking analysis to develop and implement policies and programs, including the province's royalty regime. The Division is responsible for identifying, stimulating and facilitating development and market opportunities, such as development of the province's liquefied natural gas industry and other industries that add value to British Columbia's oil and gas resources.</li> <li>• The Division develops provincial statutes and regulations that apply to the oil and gas sector; and represents the province's interests before energy regulatory tribunals. This includes facilitating and leading the development and implementation of intra-provincial liquefied natural gas pipelines and related infrastructure and facilitating the development and implementation of interprovincial oil pipelines and related infrastructure projects.</li> <li>• The Division develops and maintains petroleum geology databases. It assesses and collaborates across-government on environmental monitoring and research, as well as managing cumulative effects, guiding land use planning, oil and natural gas restoration programs and resource access.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Woodfibre Implementation Group</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for facilitating the development and implementation of the Woodfibre LNG facility by liaising with federal, provincial, municipal governments and First Nations. Providing a central point of contact for the proponent of Woodfibre LNG on regulatory and issues management.</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<p><i>BC Parks</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for all matters (policy, planning and management) of conservation, recreation and cultural values in the province's parks and protected areas.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY CONTINUED...

<b><i>Climate Change Strategy</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Province-wide coordination and management with other ministries of systems to address and respond to climate change including: CleanBC, CleanBC Communities Fund, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), CleanBC Industry Fund, CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program, B.C. Offset Program, Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy, Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy, climate policy, energy and the Climate Action Charter commitments in association with Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry responsible for Housing and Ministry of Energy, Mines &amp; Low Carbon Innovation, province-wide greenhouse gas reduction targets, Carbon Neutral Government (Public Sector Organizations – schools, universities and colleges and hospitals), Climate Solutions Council, GHG Provincial Inventory, including the community GHG Inventory. Climate action pieces of legislation related to climate change including: Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act, Climate Change Accountability Act (formerly called Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act), Carbon Tax, Greenhouse Gas Reduction - Emissions Standards, Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements Act, Vehicle Emissions Standards Act, and Clean Energy Act.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Conservation Officer Service</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A natural resource law enforcement agency responsible for enforcing federal and provincial statutes, public safety as it relates to human-wildlife conflict and interactions, commercial environmental and industrial investigations and compliance and enforcement activities.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Environmental Assessment Office</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>. Environmental assessment (EA) process. Federal EA Substitution. Relationship to federal environmental assessment and review processes, including Canada National Energy Regulator (CER). Compliance and enforcement of certified projects. Public consultation regarding EAS or EA certificate amendment applications. Implementation of the 2018 EA Act. COVID-19 impact and response.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY CONTINUED...

<p><b><i>Environmental Protection Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality, reducing toxins, pollution prevention, environmental emergencies/provincial spill response, <i>Environmental Management Act</i>, contaminated sites, brownfields, hazardous and industrial waste, <i>Integrated Pest Management Act</i>, extended producer responsibility, recycling, Provincial Plastics Action Plan, organics infrastructure funding programs, Clean Coast Clean Waters fund, Recycled Plastics Manufacturing Stimulus Fund, bonding financial assurance, circular economy, waste management (incineration, landfilling, municipal liquid and solid waste), permitting and compliance reporting for industrial operations' emissions.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Environmental Sustainability Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species at Risk policy and legislation development; conservation and sustainability of biodiversity; conservation science; Conservation Data Centre; species and ecosystem status assessments; conservation data and information; terrestrial ecosystem mapping; habitat supply modelling. <i>Water Sustainability Act</i>: development of water legislation, regulations, policy, standards and guidance; integrated watershed and aquifer science; water quality objectives development and policy; water governance framework; provincial water strategies; intergovernmental agreements; drought strategy; First Nations and stakeholder outreach on water legislation; policy for water conservation; source water protection; water quality monitoring; Lake Monitoring Program; groundwater hydrology; groundwater protection; monitoring and network management for surface water and groundwater quantity and quality. State of Environment Reporting; snow survey; ambient air quality; water stewardship outreach; environmental and natural resource sector laboratory (analytical chemistry); services and provincial laboratory quality assurance and standards; Natural Resource Sector, library services. Corporate Indigenous relations and partnership development.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Information, Innovation and Technology</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NRM Transition to Digital Government, Implementation of IM/IT Initiatives, Product Portfolio Management, Application Development and Delivery, Business Service Desk, Application Maintenance and Support, Application Infrastructure &amp; Database Services, Radio, Technology &amp; Field Services, Information Management, Information Security and Privacy, Critical Infrastructure Support.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Strategic Policy Division</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overarching environmental policy and legislation; compliance planning; intergovernmental relations; and Service Plan.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF FINANCE

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Crown Agencies Secretariat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Crown Agencies Secretariat (CAS) is the branch within government responsible for a number of Crowns, Agencies or Organizations, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ BC Lottery Corporation, including BCLC's oversight of casinos and community gaming facilities; and</li> <li>○ Liquor Distribution Branch sales and policy, including BC Liquor Stores and provincially authorized legal cannabis retail.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CAS provides direct support to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General as the lead branch responsible for the Insurance Corporation of BC.</li> <li>• CAS is also lead for a number of cross-government efforts and stakeholder liaison functions, including leading:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the Anti-Money Laundering Secretariat, and coordinating government's overall response to implement the Dr. German report recommendations; and</li> <li>○ coordination with the liquor and hospitality industry on implementation of the Business Technical Advisory Panel (BTAP) report recommendations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>Policy and Legislation Division /Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal-provincial fiscal relations (e.g., intergovernmental transfers).</li> <li>• Joint federal-provincial social policy priorities (e.g., income security and pensions).</li> <li>• Local government fiscal relations, with Municipal Affairs.</li> <li>• First Nations fiscal relations, with Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.</li> <li>• Cannabis revenue sharing.</li> </ul>
<i>Policy &amp; Legislation Division /Property Assessment Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial property assessment policy and legislation as it pertains to valuation and classification, including valuation of restricted use properties, long-term business property tax relief and housing affordability.</li> </ul>
<i>Policy &amp; Legislation Division /Tax Policy Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial tax policy, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provincial property taxes (school, rural, police)</li> <li>○ Property Transfer Tax</li> <li>○ Speculation and Vacancy Tax</li> <li>○ Provincial Sales Tax</li> <li>○ Carbon Tax</li> <li>○ Motor Fuel Tax</li> <li>○ Provincial Income Tax</li> <li>○ Cannabis Tax</li> <li>○ Indigenous Taxation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Employer Health Tax.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>BC Timber Sales</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BC Timber Sales (BCTS) manages about 20 per cent of the province's allowable annual cut for Crown timber supporting the BC Timber Market Pricing System and generating economic prosperity for British Columbians through the safe, sustainable development and auction of Crown timber. BCTS operates in 33 communities and directly supports over 8,000 jobs across B.C.</li> </ul>
<i>BC Wildfire Service</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildfire Suppression, Wildfire Prevention and Community Resiliency Initiative.</li> </ul>
<i>Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Services, Trade and Export Policy, Timber Pricing, Compensation and Business Analysis, Coast and Interior Revitalization, Indigenous Relations.</li> </ul>
<i>Integrated Resource Operations Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeology; Compliance and Enforcement; GeoBC; Heritage; Mountain Resorts; Recreation Sites &amp; Trails.</li> </ul>
<i>Lands and Natural Resource Operations Secretariat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To determine whether land use objectives that support economic activity, environmental sustainability and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples throughout the natural resource sector can be more effectively achieved through ministry restructuring.</li> </ul>
<i>Office of the Chief Forester</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Office of the Chief Forester provides provincial leadership for forest management and stewardship. Activities that occur within the Office of the Chief Forester include: continuous improvement of policies, legislation and practices, acquisition and update of forest inventory, spatial analysis and reporting of timber and non-timber values, allowable annual cut determination, silviculture, seed supply, forest health, land based research, climate change, carbon management, integrated planning, forest genetic resource management, developing the bio economy and supporting the ministry dealing with intergovernmental affairs. All these activities are carried out to achieve sustainable management of B.C.'s forests and maintain a balance between a healthy environment and economic sustainability. This Division is comprised of the Office of the Chief Forester and five branches and one unit: Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch, Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch, Climate Change and Integrated Planning Branch and Resource Practices Branch and Innovation, Bioeconomy and Indigenous Opportunities and the Inter-governmental Affairs unit.</li> </ul>



**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED...**

<i>Regional Operations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FrontCounter BC, resource management coordination, land use policy projects and implementation, Crown land water, fish &amp; wildlife and forest authorizations, community forest agreements, species at risk program delivery, urban deer, clean energy projects, First Nations consultation, ecosystem-based management, range, BC Timber Sales, Interior forest sector renewal, flood and fire response and recovery. Range Branch: Invasive Species and Ecosystem Restoration.</li> </ul>
<i>Resource Stewardship Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fish and Aquatic Habitat; Resource Planning and Assessment; Species at Risk Recovery; Water Management; Wildlife and Habitat; Strategic Projects and Indigenous Policy; Provincial Stewardship Strategies and Planning. Includes land use planning, cumulative effects and the Forest and Range Evaluation program, integrated monitoring, policy that guides wildlife, fish and water management, land-based investment program, non-timber forest values, resource management objectives, species at risk recovery, fish and wildlife management, habitat management, water management, river forecasting, dam safety, flood safety, water use planning, utility regulation, water stewardship, old growth strategic review, land stewardship and protection policy.</li> </ul>
<i>Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engineering, Resource Worker Safety, Lands, Forest Tenures, Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration and Rural Development.</li> </ul>

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

<b>DIVISION/BRANCH</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
<i>COVID Response and Health Emergency Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure an ongoing, focused response to supporting the health system within the context of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Coordinate the Ministry of Health and Health Sector’s response to the pandemic.</li> <li>• Continue to provide health system coordination for new emergency events and ongoing provincial level response planning for natural hazard and public health emergencies that may disrupt health service delivery.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH CONTINUED...

<b><i>Finance and Corporate Services</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports programs and health authorities by managing and ensuring a consistent approach to financial and corporate services planning, policy, performance oversight/reporting, and critical financial and corporate services issues management.</li> <li>• Services provided include, Health Authority Regional Grants Decision Support, Finance and Decision Support, Capital Services Management, and Audit and Investigations.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Health Sector Workforce and Beneficiary Services</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for operational delivery of beneficiary and diagnostic services and workforce strategies that contribute to effectively meeting patient and population health needs and improving patient outcomes through the efficient delivery of health services.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Health Services</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focuses on implementing specialized community and surgical services and programs, provincial health services, and regional hospital-based services, and provides provincial oversight of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).</li> <li>• Works towards service transformation across the health sector and streamlines bilateral efforts between the ministry and health authorities by bringing together key mandated initiatives.</li> <li>• Community Care – seniors services, assisted living registry operations and oversight, mental health and substance use services.</li> <li>• Work on access and wait times – surgical and diagnostic services; implementing waitlist policies and approaches in the specialized community services programs and other general health services.</li> <li>• The Division works closely with providers and stakeholders, provides strategic oversight, policy development, performance and issues monitoring and evaluation.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Office of Indigenous Health</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works in partnership with B.C. First Nations, Métis and urban Indigenous partners, regional health authorities, across provincial ministries, and with Indigenous Services Canada to ensure the implementation of key strategic priorities and commitments regarding Indigenous health and wellness.</li> <li>• Key focus: Using the Recommendations of the <i>In Plain Sight</i> report as a blueprint for action to address Indigenous-specific racism and discrimination across the B.C. health care system.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Population and Public Health</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focuses on improving people's overall health and well-being by promoting health; preventing disease, disability, and injury; protecting people from harm, and ensuring particular focus on key groups including Indigenous peoples, women and children.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH CONTINUED...

<i>Primary Care</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for implementing the provincial primary care strategy. The priorities of the division are: Primary care networks; Urgent primary care centres; Community health centres; Interdisciplinary team based primary care services; ensuring integration of Primary Care services with community services programs.</li> <li>• The Division also includes HealthLink BC due to its role as a key community services enabler of primary care.</li> </ul>
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## MINISTRY OF INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Community and Social Innovation Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads the Ministry's efforts in sociocultural reconciliation with Indigenous communities in British Columbia, including First Nations, Metis, urban Indigenous peoples and Indigenous youth. Partners with Indigenous governments, communities, organizations and other ministries to implement community wellbeing initiatives that advance self-determining, thriving, and resilient Indigenous communities.</li> </ul>
<i>Implementation and Lands Services Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads key functions for the completion, implementation and ongoing relationship management of agreements with First Nations in the province, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provincial representative on treaty Implementation Committees;</li> <li>○ Tri-partite treaty closing to reach Effective Date;</li> <li>○ Research/advice and survey for crown land negotiations; and</li> <li>○ Implementation best practices to ensure agreement obligations are met.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>Negotiations and Regional Operations Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads provincial engagement with First Nations to advance reconciliation initiatives, including negotiating and implementing agreements with First Nations partners in conjunction with other provincial agencies, federal and local government, and working with stakeholders to ensure the success of reconciliation initiatives.</li> </ul>
<i>Reconciliation Transformation &amp; Strategies Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads provincial development and implementation of strategic reconciliation initiatives, such as the <i>Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act</i>.</li> <li>• Facilitates collaboration and partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, stakeholders, and all levels of government to build capacity and support outcomes that advance reconciliation at the local, regional and provincial levels.</li> <li>• Provides strategic advice and coordination to support Indigenous economic development and sustainability as a means to advance self-determination.</li> </ul>



**MINISTRY OF INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION  
CONTINUED...**

<p><i>Socio-Economic Partnerships Branch</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leads the development and implementation of key corporate Indigenous initiatives and seeks to achieve positive impacts needed to improve the social and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples in B.C. living on and off reserve. This work requires the development of solutions through a diverse range of initiatives through engagement with Indigenous partners, provincial ministries and the federal government.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Strategic Liaison, Consultation and Safety Branch</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial accountability for government consultation and accommodation procedures and associated tools to support statutory decision makers.</li> </ul>

**MINISTRY OF JOBS, ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INNOVATION**

<p><b>DIVISION/BRANCH</b></p>	<p><b>TOPIC</b></p>
<p><i>Small Business and Economic Development Division</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic analysis and policy, including LNG economic and workforce impacts and opportunities; Business growth and scale-up, including the B.C. supplier development pilot; Better Regulations for British Columbians; and Business and Economics Implications Framework.</li> <li>Supports the development and delivery of policies, programs and initiatives supporting inclusive economic recovery, local, regional and Indigenous economic development, outreach, engagement and community investment readiness.</li> <li>Small business initiatives, programs, resources and available supports including the Small Business Roundtable; Sector and Regulatory Competitiveness including Better Regulations for British Columbians.</li> <li>Leads the development and delivery of policies, programs and initiatives supporting local, regional and Indigenous economic development and community investment readiness.</li> <li>Support the COVID Industry Engagement Table which focuses on ways to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in workplaces, and to provide input and advice to the government on the impacts and effectiveness of new public health measures and restrictions.</li> <li>Focus on increasing Indigenous participation in the economy, promoting Indigenous businesses and entrepreneurs, and industry partnerships.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF JOBS, ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INNOVATION CONTINUED...

### *Investment and Innovation Division*

### *Innovation, Technology and Investment Capital Division*

- Leads the development and implementation of strategy and policy in support of provincial technology, innovation and related investment initiatives.
- Responsible for InBC - a \$500 million strategic investment fund with a “triple bottom line” mandate that invests in high-growth potential businesses to help them scale up. InBC will continue to be accountable for the administration of the legacy investments of the BC Renaissance Capital Fund, which include 10 investments in venture capital funds, including the BC Tech Fund.
- Major Investments and Strategic Partnerships including:
- Assesses the technical, financial, and strategic scope of investment opportunities to determine the appropriate level of ministry engagement.
- Engages with potential investors who have a viable project opportunity and provides customized support to enable the investment to advance in B.C.
- Works closely with the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation to boost B.C. as a global exporter of climate solutions, carbon capture, storage, and other low carbon technologies.
- Leads and/or collaborates on complex cross ministry/government activities or strategic initiatives, including economic recovery.
- Develops partnerships with investors to match project financing needs with strategic sources of capital.
- Develops relationships with industry associations, investors, and other investment focused stakeholders to identify projects that could benefit from the branch’s involvement.
- The division also manages the BC Knowledge Development Fund Program, the province’s participation in the Digital Supercluster, provides expertise on B.C.’s research strengths and leads the planning and coordination of provincial technology and innovation policy and programming, including oversight of Innovate BC and digital marketing initiatives.
- Coordination of the province’s StrongerBC programming.
- Cannabis economic development including challenges and opportunities for local and indigenous governments in supporting the development of licit cultivation and retail operations in their communities.
- Develop and implement “pan-economic” frameworks to support provincial investment policy decision-making.
- Leads the ministry’s investment evaluation process.
- Provide secretariat support for StrongerBC - tracking & reporting.



## MINISTRY OF JOBS, ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INNOVATION CONTINUED...

### *Trade and Industry Development Division*

- Delivers economic recovery “StrongerBC” initiatives that help B.C. businesses adapt and recover from the impacts of COVID-19 (Agritech, Manufacturing, Supply Chain).
- Develops programming and strategies for major and emerging sectors of B.C.’s economy.
- Spurs economic opportunities through Canada’s free trade agreements and our own international networks in support of diversified and growing exports and investment attraction.
- Drives prosperity and global opportunities for B.C. businesses in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada in the USA, Europe and Asia.
- Develops and delivers events and outreach to support awareness and networking for B.C. businesses in B.C. and overseas.
- Manages international and industry focused domestic marketing efforts in order to promote B.C. internationally as an attractive place to do business.
- Delivers and coordinates trade readiness and trade services programs serving communities across the province including indigenous communities, helping develop prosperous exporting companies positively impacting these communities.
- Supports the delivery of the Export Navigator Program.
- Supports the delivery of the Agritech Concierge Program and co-lead for implementation of the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force.
- Develops and delivers initiatives to attract and retain international investors and businesses, including support for site selection, aligning efforts with B.C. communities and federal partners to optimize the best investment opportunities for B.C.
- Advances and defends B.C. interests in international and domestic trade negotiations, agreements, and disputes.
- Monitors, analyzes, and communicates trends in investment, exports, and policy, connecting to the B.C. industry development context, and providing the evidence base for sound strategy development and decision making.
- Leads the development of a Trade Diversification Strategy and an Industrial and Manufacturing Strategy.



## MINISTRY OF JOBS, ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INNOVATION CONTINUED...

<i>Office of Mass Timber Implementation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Office is tasked with leading the expansion and use of mass timber in B.C. buildings. Working towards transitioning the forestry sector to high value over high-volume production.</li> <li>• Expected outcomes include opportunities for local workers, strong partnerships with First Nations and greater economic opportunity while making a significant contribution to advancing CleanBC, advancing the Mass Timber Action Plan, cross-government and external partner co-ordination &amp; collaboration and supporting the Minister's Mass Timber Advisory Council.</li> </ul>
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## MINISTRY OF LABOUR

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Labour Relations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of the Labour Relations Code through the independent quasi-judicial B.C. Labour Relations Board. The Ministry also promotes stable labour relations by monitoring collective bargaining disputes and providing formal and informal assistance to the parties. Also, responsible for the Fire and Police Services Collective Bargaining Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Employment Standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of the Employment Standards Act to ensure employees receive basic standards of compensation and conditions of employment, including the minimum wage. Provide fair and efficient procedures for resolving workplace disputes. Responsible for the Employment Standards Branch and the Employment Standards Tribunal. Responsible for enforcement of the new Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Workers' Compensation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of the Workers Compensation Act and responsible for WorkSafeBC (provincial Workers' Compensation Board). WorkSafeBC provides compensation services, health care and vocational rehabilitation to injured workers. WorkSafeBC also has authority to develop, enact and enforce the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. The Ministry is also responsible for the Employers' Advisers Office, the Workers' Advisers Office, and the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Strategic Policy &amp; Planning Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting strategic direction and responsible for leading the development and implementation of an overarching, integrated mental health and addictions strategic framework and associated actions plans.</li> <li>• Leading child and youth mental health and substance use initiatives including the expansion of Foundry Youth Centres, developing a youth substance use system of care, and establishing integrated child and youth teams.</li> <li>• Supporting Indigenous partnerships including partnering on Indigenous-led solutions and advancing broader commitments related to Indigenous reconciliation.</li> <li>• Developing a framework for services and supports for people with complex mental health and substance use needs who are not adequately served by supportive housing in B.C.</li> </ul>
<i>Strategic Priorities &amp; Initiatives Division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead for substance use policy, system integration and innovation, including the overdose public health emergency. This includes the full continuum of substance use services and supports from prevention, early intervention, harm reduction as well as treatment and recovery.</li> <li>• Lead for public information, social marketing, and anti-stigma campaigns for substance use in the province.</li> <li>• Leads and/or supports initiatives and provides strategic advice on workplace mental health. Works collaboratively with community partners, unions, and employer groups to ensure employees and leaders have the tools and training they need to foster psychologically healthy and safe workplaces.</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Local Government Division</i>	
<i>Governance Structures Governance Services Governance Relations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporation, restructure, boundary extensions, structure-related legislation and processes, and local and regional governance.</li> <li>• Local government administration, elections, governance operations-related legislative requirements/powers and local and regional services.</li> <li>• Local government First Nations/Indigenous relations, Crown Grant/Nominal Rent Tenure sponsorships, Business Improvement Areas, and Resort Associations.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS CONTINUED...

<p><b><i>Infrastructure and Engineering</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asset management, drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, green energy, community, recreation and other capital grants, infrastructure planning grants and programs [Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (Environmental Quality; Community, Culture and Recreation, Rural and Northern Communities, CleanBC Communities Fund, COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream), Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program, Clean Water and Wastewater Fund and Small Communities Fund].</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Local Government Finance</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local government finance, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ budgeting and financial plans;</li> <li>○ audited financial statements;</li> <li>○ unconditional grants; Safe Restart – Local Government grants; reserve funds;</li> <li>○ investments and municipal corporations; long-term liabilities;</li> <li>○ development financing (including Development Cost Charges);</li> <li>○ user-fees;</li> <li>○ taxation (including tax sale);</li> <li>○ COVID-19 response temporary financial measures; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Property Assessment Clean Energy (PACE) Programs.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Local Government Policy, Research and Legislation</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall responsibility for local government legislation development for Community Charter, Local Government Act, Local Elections Campaign Financing Act and other local government legislation. Broad responsibility for forward-looking policy development in relation to various local government authorities.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Planning and Land Use Management Programs</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local government planning and land use management framework, including: rental zoning, housing needs reports; other local planning and land use tools; ministerial approvals of some official community plans; Regional Growth Strategies (RGSs); and Development Approvals Process Review.</li> <li>• CleanBC, Climate Action Charter, Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), joint provincial-UBCM Green Communities Committee (GCC), support for local government climate mitigation and adaptation action including consideration of UBCM’s Special Committee on Climate Action recommendations.</li> <li>• Dispute resolution related to Regional District service review/withdrawal, RGS and other intergovernmental disputes.</li> <li>• Socio-economic effects of LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink’s LNG projects on local governments and Indigenous Nations in northern B.C.</li> <li>• Funding programs: Safe Restart -- Strengthening Communities’ Services, Safe Restart -- Local Government Development Approvals Program, Northern Healthy Communities Fund.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS CONTINUED...

<b><i>Public Libraries Branch</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Libraries Branch works together with public library boards, library staff and local governments to improve and ensure the public's access to information, resources, and services under the Library Act. Responsible for areas covering legislation, governance, financial reporting, provincial funding, digital infrastructure, provincial-wide services and provincial policies. Responsible for implementation of B.C.'s strategic plan for public library services.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division</i></b>	
<b><i>Community Gaming Grants</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Gaming Grants support eligible not-for-profit organizations delivering community programs that benefit the citizens of British Columbia. Grants are awarded in several sectors including: Arts &amp; Culture, Sport, Public Safety, Environment, Human &amp; Social Services and Parent Advisory Councils.</li> <li>• Eligible not-for-profit can also apply for Capital Grants through the program.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Community Policy and Legislation</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The branch provides services and leadership in the areas of legislative services, community policy, corporate priorities and strategic planning related to local governments and communities.</li> <li>• The branch is responsible for and executes the legislative program and coordinates Orders in Council (OIC), Ministerial Orders and board appointments for the ministry.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Immigration Services</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immigration policy, programs, and services; including Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) supporting the attraction of international entrepreneurs and skilled and semi-skilled workers. The Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot and the PNP Tech Pilot are supported by a dedicated PNP Concierge service; Settlement and Integration services, foreign qualifications recognition and interprovincial labour mobility.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>BC Coroners Service</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for investigating and determining the circumstances of all unnatural, sudden and unexpected, unexplained or unattended deaths in the province.</li> <li>• Makes recommendations to improve public safety and prevent death in similar circumstances.</li> <li>• Responsible for the investigation of all child death (under the age of 19 years) in B.C. and for investigating all deaths in custody.</li> </ul>
<i>BC Corrections</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for the supervision of individual, 18 years or older, on bail or serving a sentence in the community, and the supervision of individuals in custody awaiting trial, serving a sentence under two years, or on an immigration hold.</li> </ul>
<i>Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat leads and supports the development and implementation of provincial non-medical cannabis policy.</li> <li>• The lead for negotiating and entering into government-to-government agreements with Indigenous nations in respect to cannabis under section 119 of the <i>Cannabis Control and Licensing Act</i>.</li> </ul>
<i>Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Forfeiture; Victim Services and, Violence Against Women Programming; Domestic Violence; Gender Based Violence; Crime Prevention; Restorative Justice; and Human Trafficking.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Emergency Management BC (EMBC)</i></p> <p><b>**Meeting requests for the Minister will be held with the Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the lead coordinating agency in the provincial government for all emergency management activities. The overall purpose of EMBC is to make individuals and communities in B.C. safer.</li> <li>• Works with local governments, First Nations, federal departments, industry, non-governmental organizations, and volunteers to support the emergency management phases of mitigation and prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. Additionally, EMBC engages with provincial, national and international partners to enhance collective emergency preparedness.</li> <li>• Also, within EMBC is the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC). The OFC is the senior fire authority in the province with respect to fire safety and prevention.</li> </ul>
<i>Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICBC is responsible to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, who is supported within government by the Crown Agencies Secretariat in the Ministry of Finance.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL CONTINUED...

<p><b><i>Policing and Security Branch</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Services provides central oversight of all policing and law enforcement in the province by developing and administering policing policy and programs. Ensures the adequate and effective levels of policing throughout the province.</li> <li>• Security Programs administers the Criminal Record Review Program, Protection Order Registry, security screening for cannabis workers and retail applicants, regulation of the security industry in B.C., as well as programs regulating Metal Dealers and Recyclers, Pill Presses, and Armored Vehicles / Body Armor.</li> <li>• The Community Safety Unit was established under the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act. It delivers a province wide regulatory compliance and enforcement program to enhance public safety by focusing on the illegal sale of cannabis.</li> <li>• Police and Public Safety Modernization project is tracking the work of the Special Committee on reforming the <i>Police Act</i> in anticipation of their report, expected to be tabled April 28, 2022.</li> <li>• The Indigenous Policing Unit is currently involved in the renewal of the First Nations Policing Program (FNPP) Framework Agreement and provides ongoing oversight of the FNPP, work with RCMP regarding the Community Tripartite Agreements (CTA) and police agencies (St'at'imx Tribal Police Service &amp; Delta Police Service) on issues management through participation in various working groups and committees. Work with Public Safety Canada and other Provinces and Territories on the co-development of the federal legislative framework to make the FNPP an essential service and the expansion of the FNPP.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>RoadSafety BC</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operates provincial road safety programs and is the policy and regulatory agency responsible for ensuring the safe and responsible operation of motor vehicles in B.C.</li> <li>• The Superintendent of Motor Vehicles is the administrative authority governing drivers and has authority to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prohibit a person from driving a motor vehicle;</li> <li>○ Require a driver to take part in a program to improve their driving;</li> <li>○ Review and make decisions about sanctions, driving prohibitions and ICBC licensing decisions; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Make sure B.C. drivers are medically fit to drive.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Accessibility Secretariat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility – Working across government to increase accessibility and decrease barriers for people with disabilities in B.C.</li> <li>• Accessible British Columbia Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Employment and Labour Market Services Division</i>	<p><b>WorkBC Employment Services:</b> WorkBC provides British Columbians with the employment services and supports to find good jobs and supports businesses in B.C. to access workers with the right skills. WorkBC Employment Services are delivered through 102 WorkBC Centres across B.C., as well as through a strong online presence. Services are currently available in-person by appointment and virtually. Services include access to job search resources, employment planning, skills training, financial supports, work experience placements, assistive technology supports, apprentice services and more.</p> <p><b>Community and Employer Partnerships</b> The Community and Employer Partnerships (CEP) Fund is a component of WorkBC Employment Services by investing in training and skills for unemployed job seekers and supporting people to find and keep good jobs. The Community and Employer Partnerships fund supports community-based initiatives to help individuals and the broader community. With the help of this fund, communities see job creation, positive social impacts, economic growth, and more employment opportunities for unemployed British Columbians.</p> <p>In response to the rapidly changing labour market and to support recovery efforts, CEP is prioritizing applications and funding projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create work experience and training opportunities to prepare job seekers for available jobs; and</li> <li>• Support an inclusive economic recovery in B.C. communities.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION CONTINUED...

<p><i>Research, Innovation and Policy Division</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Research, Innovation and Policy Division (RIPD) provides research, policy and legislation support to the ministry, enabling the Service Delivery Division to successfully deliver the BC Employment and Assistance Program and provide financial assistance to British Columbians most in need.</li> <li>• Income and Disability Assistance – Effective May 2021, the B.C. Government has provided the largest-ever permanent increase to Income Assistance and Disability Assistance rates.</li> <li>• RIPD also undertakes reconsideration activities for clients disputing decisions regarding eligibility for or amounts granted through Income and Disability Assistance programs.</li> <li>• RIPD also leads government on Together BC, BC's Poverty Reduction Strategy, including recent mandate items regarding food security and period poverty. The Division also supports the Parliamentary Secretary for Community Development and Non-Profits.</li> </ul>
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## MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<p><i>Arts and Culture</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the arts and culture sector through COVID-19 response and recovery.</li> <li>• Leads research, analysis, policy, and program development to provide broad access to and increase participation in arts and culture.</li> <li>• Implements the BC Arts Council Strategic Plan focusing on increasing equity, diversity and access; improving sustainability and creative development; enhancing engagement with Indigenous arts and culture; and expanding regional and community arts.</li> <li>• Administers application-based grant programs for artists/cultural practitioners, and non-profit arts and culture organizations, including programs for artistic development &amp; capacity building, small arts infrastructure projects, and arts-based community development.</li> <li>• Provides oversight of cultural infrastructure priority projects, including the Royal BC Museum modernization and the establishment of a Chinese Canadian Museum.</li> </ul>
<p><i>BC Athletic Commission</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation and regulatory oversight of professional boxing, kickboxing, and mixed martial arts, as well as amateur kickboxing, mixed martial arts, Muay Thai and pankration.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT CONTINUED...

<i>Creative Sector</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead on cross-ministry and intergovernmental coordination, policy development and research to support the growth of B.C.'s creative sector (i.e., film, television, interactive digital media, music, and publishing) and work with industry stakeholders to advance opportunities. Provides oversight and strategic direction for Creative BC and the Knowledge Network.</li> </ul>
<i>Sport</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead on policy development and program implementation related to amateur sport development in B.C. Work is guided by B.C.'s Sport Framework (<i>Pathways to Sport</i>) which identifies three key priority areas of focus for the provincial sport system: sport participation; athlete development; sport event hosting.</li> </ul>
<i>Tourism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies, programs, destination development and strategic engagement to support B.C. tourism sector's recovery and resilience; manages the Resort Municipality Initiative, Tourism Event Program and Municipal Regional District Tax program (jointly with Ministry of Finance and Destination BC). Provides oversight of Destination BC (tourism marketing) and BC Pavilion Corporation (BC Place and Vancouver Convention Centre) and leads development and implementation of provincial tourism framework.</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Highway Operations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Highway Operations Department plans, designs, constructs, operates, rehabilitates and maintains the provincial public highway system. Project manages and delivers hundreds of expansion, rehabilitation and safety improvement projects annually including maintenance contracts, centreline marking contracts and electrical contracts. Oversees and manages privatized road and bridge maintenance. Approves subdivisions in rural areas near provincial highways, issues highway permits for access, utilities and special events and approves zoning near provincial highways. The department, through their Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement (CVSE) program, also regulates and manages commercial vehicle activities on the provincial highway network and aligns requirements with neighboring provinces to ensure the safe and efficient movement of goods within B.C. and beyond.</li> </ul>



## MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTINUED...

<p><i>Highway Services</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Highways Services Department develops province-wide engineering and environmental solutions and implements standards, policies and procedures regarding provincial transportation engineering. Ensures commercial vehicle safety by managing the National Safety Code, the Vehicle Inspection and Standards and enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Act in relation to commercial vehicles. Highway Services also includes the Passenger Transportation Branch, which regulates commercial passenger vehicles including taxis, ride hailing companies, limousines, charter and inter-city (scheduled) buses, in accordance with the Passenger Transportation Act.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Major Projects, Infrastructure and Properties Department</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Major Projects, Infrastructure and Properties Department is responsible for all aspects of strategic planning, capital programming, including development and management of the provincial 10-year Transportation Investment Plan, management of federal and community cost sharing programs, and the delivery of the major transportation projects throughout the province. Oversees the acquisition, management and disposition of the ministry's thousands of properties and land interests, including those owned by the BC Transportation Financing Authority and BC Railway Company. The department is also the primary linkage to the Transportation Investment Corporation.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Transportation Policy &amp; Programs Department</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Transportation Policy and Programs Department is responsible for all aspects of strategic transportation policy, legislation, and grant programs in British Columbia. This includes air, rail, public transit service delivery through BC Transit and coastal and inland ferry delivery, governmental relations, active transportation and airport grant programs, Clean BC and climate change initiatives, corporate planning, strategic initiatives and writing services. The department has direct oversight of the province's coastal ferry service through BC Ferries and also supports the Minister Responsible for TransLink.</li> </ul>



## PROVINCIAL AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS AND CORPORATIONS AVAILABLE DURING THE UBCM 2021 CONVENTION

DIVISION/BRANCH	TOPIC
<i>Agricultural Land Commission</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and advice regarding the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and work of the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). ALC Chair and/or Chief Executive Officer will be in attendance.</li> </ul>
<i>BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of the Provincial Health Services Authority, BCEHS governs the emergency medical services system in B.C. and provides pre-hospital emergency and inter-facility patient transfer services. BCEHS paramedics, emergency medical call takers and dispatch staff provide pre-hospital emergency care and medically necessary transport (ground and air ambulances) for British Columbians. BCEHS also oversees patient inter-facility transfers in the province, working with health authorities to coordinate the transfer of acute and critically ill patients to an appropriate level of care both within and outside of B.C.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of the BCEHS executive team look forward to participating in productive and engaging sessions with municipal leaders.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>BC Housing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BC Housing works in partnership with private and non-profit sectors, provincial health authorities and ministries, other levels of government and community groups to develop a range of housing options. These affordable housing options span the housing continuum, including emergency shelter and housing for the homeless, transitional supportive and assisted living, independent social housing, rent assistance in the private market, and affordable owner-purchase housing.</li> <li>Through the Homeowner Protection Act, BC Housing also licenses residential builders, administers owner builder authorizations, ensures that mandatory licensing and home warranty insurance provisions are complied with, oversees the third-party home-warranty insurance, and carries out research and education that benefits the residential construction industry, consumers and the affordable housing sector.</li> </ul>
<i>BC Hydro</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BC Hydro's mission is to safely provide reliable, affordable, clean electricity throughout B.C. Our vision is to be the most trusted, innovative utility company in North America by being smart about power in all we do. BC Hydro's Community Relations staff look forward to addressing any questions that you may have related to our operations.</li> </ul>



## PROVINCIAL AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS AND CORPORATIONS AVAILABLE DURING THE UBCM 2021 CONVENTION CONTINUED...

<b><i>BC Oil and Gas Commission</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The BC Oil and Gas Commission regulates oil, gas and geothermal activities for the benefit of British Columbians and looks forward to addressing any questions you may have on our regulatory oversight.</li> </ul>
<b><i>BC Transit</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From small towns to large urban centres outside of Metro Vancouver, BC Transit delivers safe, reliable, customer focused transportation services you can rely on. BC Transit would be pleased to discuss any questions you may have regarding our services. In order to provide you with the best information possible, please provide specifics relating to your questions within the online meeting request.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC)</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICBC provides universal compulsory auto insurance (basic insurance) to drivers in British Columbia, with rates regulated by the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) and sells optional auto insurance in a competitive marketplace. Our insurance products are available across B.C. through a network of independent brokers, and claims services are provided at ICBC claims handling facilities located throughout the province. We also invest in road safety and loss management programs to reduce traffic-related deaths, injuries and crashes, auto crime and fraud. In addition, provides driver licensing, vehicle registration and licensing services, and fines collection on behalf of the provincial government at locations across the province. ICBC will have staff at the Convention who would be pleased to discuss or meet on any issues related to ICBC's operations.</li> </ul>



## PROVINCIAL AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS AND CORPORATIONS AVAILABLE DURING THE UBCM 2021 CONVENTION CONTINUED...

<p><b><i>Police Victim Services British Columbia</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Victim Services of British Columbia Society (PVSBC) is the B.C. registered not for profit charity membership organization mandated to be the primary advocate for all (95+) police-based victim service (PBVS) organizations within the Province of B.C.</li> <li>• PBVS local organizations are physically embedded with the municipal or RCMP detachment delivering ongoing police services to the citizens of each community.</li> <li>• Our Vision is - All victims of crime and trauma across B.C. receive compassionate, professional, and consistent services.</li> <li>• PVSBC advocates, represents, lobbies, and communicates with members, partners and stakeholders on the development and delivery of PVSBC trauma informed programs, baseline and advanced training, professional development and member support programs.</li> <li>• Funding is provided by the Provincial and Federal Governments, with additional resources from corporate and individual contributions, sponsorships and program revenues.</li> <li>• PVSBC will have staff present at the Convention to engage delegates in any issue related to the delivery of police-based victim services as well as the linkage to police and other local partner/stakeholders within their community.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Canada's national police force, provides policing services to most of British Columbia, including 150 municipalities. These services include, but are not limited to, uniformed patrols, response to calls for service, investigative services, community-based policing and traffic enforcement. Additionally, the BC RCMP is part of a number of integrated teams operating throughout the province who provide specialized police services to British Columbians. The BC RCMP values ongoing collaboration and meaningful communication with our partners. Representatives of the BC RCMP's Senior Management Team look forward to hearing your feedback and answer any questions you may have about its services so that we can work together towards our common goal of providing your community with a professional, efficient and effective police service.</li> </ul>





Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs







June 3, 2021

**Re: Meeting of Regional District Chairs to Discuss Legislative Reform – June 25, 2021**

Dear Regional District Chairs:

Following up on several recent discussions about legislative reform, including at April's Chair/CAO Forum, I am organizing a virtual meeting of Regional District Chairs to gauge interest in initiating a collective effort to bring about legislative reform with a view to modernizing the *Local Government Act* to reflect a more responsive approach to the needs and realities of communities today, and achieving greater equivalence between the powers of regional districts and municipalities.

Such an initiative would no doubt include a review of the models of taxation and funding for services between municipalities and regional districts which plays into challenges in establishing services in ways that optimize the most efficient scale, or that distribute costs and participation most fairly.

At the AVICC Convention on May 28, 2021 Minister Josie Osborne noted that she has heard from UBCM on the need for legislative reform and would be open to hearing about specific changes to the *Local Government Act* that are being sought.

Don Lidstone of Lidstone and Company has kindly agreed to attend this virtual session to discuss his work in this area and to help set the context for a path forward, including suggestions for a roadmap for policy and legislation. We are grateful for his guidance and expertise and look forward to coming together for a robust discussion to share ideas.

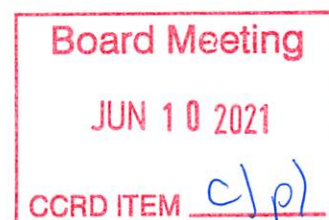
To that end, it is my pleasure to invite you to a virtual meeting on Friday, June 25, 2021 from 1 pm to 4 pm. An agenda will follow shortly, along with a calendar invitation and Zoom details. I very much hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Brown".

Tyler Brown, Chair  
Regional District of Nanaimo  
[tyler.brown@nanaimo.ca](mailto:tyler.brown@nanaimo.ca)

cc: Regional District CAOs





File: 0110.01

June 4, 2021

Ms. Tamara Jansen, MP  
 Cloverdale - Langley City  
 Suite 105 - 19211 Fraser Highway  
 Surrey, BC V3S 7C9

Via Email: [Tamara.Jansen@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Jansen@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Ms. Jansen:

Re: Support for 988 Suicide and Crisis Line Initiative

At its May 31, 2021, Regular Council meeting, the Council for the City of Langley passed the following resolution to convey Council's support of the Federal government's proposed National three-digit suicide and crisis line initiative:

WHEREAS the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;

AND WHEREAS the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200 per cent;

AND WHEREAS existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;

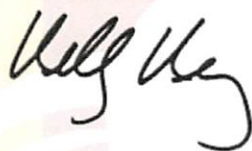
AND WHEREAS in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 988 crisis hotline;

AND WHEREAS The Council of the City of Langley recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Langley endorses this 988-crisis line initiative; and

THAT staff be directed to send a letter to the local MP, MLA, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate our support.

Yours truly,  
 CITY OF LANGLEY



Kelly Kenney  
 Corporate Officer





Cc Andrew Mercier, MLA for Langley  
[Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

The Hon. Steven Guilbeault  
Minister of Canadian Heritage  
Minister Responsible for the CRTC  
[steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca](mailto:steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca)

The Hon. Patty Hajdu  
Federal Minister of Health  
[hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca](mailto:hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca)

Local Area Municipalities





## DISTRICT OF TOFINO – OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

P.O. Box 9, 121 Third Street, Tofino, B.C. V0R 2Z0

Telephone: 250.725.3229 | Fax: 250.725.3775 | Email: [dlaw@tofino.ca](mailto:dlaw@tofino.ca) | Website: [www.tofino.ca](http://www.tofino.ca)

Honourable Katrine Conroy  
 Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
 PO BOX 9049, Stn. Provincial Government  
 Victoria BC, V8W9E2

May 11, 2021  
 File No. COM-02 FLNRORD  
[FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Conroy,

**Re: Support for Expedient and Resourced Implementation of the Old-Growth Strategic Review**

On behalf of the District of Tofino Council, I write to you expressing support for the expedient and resourced implementation of the 14 recommendations in the report titled “A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems” (the Strategic Review) written by Registered Professional Foresters Garry Merkel and Al Gorley.

We commend the Minister and Premier Horgan for having publicly committed to implement the Strategic Review in its totality. However, to adequately manage and protect BC’s old forest biodiversity, attributes, values and benefits for future generations, we specifically request an expedient Provincial response to recommendations 6 and 7:

6. Until a new strategy is implemented, defer development in old forests where ecosystems are at very high and near-term risk of irreversible biodiversity loss.
7. Bring management of old forests into compliance with existing provincial targets and guidelines for maintaining biological diversity.

The District of Tofino also adds our voice to concerns that BC Budget 2021 shows no allocated funding toward the implementation of the recommendations, or to transitional supports for communities and Indigenous governments as they adapt to changes resulting from new forest management systems.

While BC Budget 2021 does include increased funding for land-use planning modernization, support for negotiations with Indigenous communities, and funds to enact the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, the budget is missing critical funding pieces needed to fully implement the Old Growth Strategic Review recommendations.

Situated within the Territory of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, thirty years ago our region was also at a crossroads with respect to the ongoing harvest of timber resources. Since that time, the District of Tofino has continued to engage with the Province and other governments on issues of sustainability and equity, as noted in our most recent Strategic Plan, protocol agreements and other corporate strategies.

Office of the Mayor

Board Meeting

JUN 10 2021

CCRD ITEM (C) r)



Our intention in writing to you, Minister, is to not only show the District of Tofino's support for the expedient implementation of the Strategic Review's recommendations, but also to add our voice to the calls for dedicated funding to enact the recommendations in an economically just manner to build healthier ecosystems, better long-term land management and greater public support for this much needed paradigm shift.

Sincerely,

**Dan Law, Mayor**  
**District of Tofino**

cc. MLA Josie Osborne  
Local Governments of British Columbia



**Town of Port McNeill**  
P.O. Box 728  
Port McNeill, B.C. V0N 2R0



**Town Office: (250) 956-3111**  
**Fax: (250) 956-4300**  
**reception@portmcneill.ca**

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**SUPPORT WORKING FORESTS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND AND IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**WHEREAS** universal ban of Old Growth logging would result in major job losses for forestry-based communities and impact the overall Provincial economy;

**AND WHEREAS** a sustainably managed, working forest is critical for assisting carbon sequestering, managing climate change, supporting continued Indigenous reconciliation, providing a vibrant economy for forest-based communities, employing British Columbians in direct and indirect forestry related businesses, with millions of dollars of investment directly supporting communities and the overall Provincial economy.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** policy on the management of forests in British Columbia should continue to be managed through a rigorous, science-based approach;

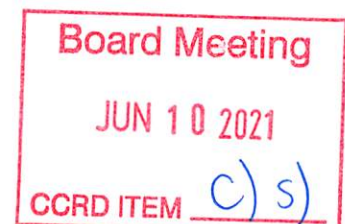
**AND THAT** British Columbia is recognized as having stringent legislation and enforcement related to elements of sustainable forest management, including requirements for wildlife habitat, water quality, and public and First Nations involvement;

**AND THAT** UBCM calls on the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to continue to support working forests on Vancouver Island and in British Columbia;

**AND THAT** Council calls on all forest-based communities to develop similar motions to further support working forests in British Columbia;

**AND THAT** the above motion be sent to the Union of BC Municipalities and AVICC for late submissions;

**AND THAT** the above motion be distributed to the Council of Forest Industries.





**SUPPORT WORKING FORESTS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND AND IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**WHEREAS** a ban of Old Growth logging would result in job losses and impact the broader business community;

**AND WHEREAS** a sustainably managed, working forest is critical for assisting carbon sequestering, managing climate change, supporting continued indigenous reconciliation, providing a vibrant economy for forest-based communities, and employing the hard-working men and women of the forest industry in British Columbia where millions of dollars are invested in the North Island, directly supporting forest-based communities and the overall Provincial economy; British Columbia is recognized as having stringent legislation and enforcement related to elements of sustainable forest management, including requirements for wildlife habitat, water quality, and public and First Nations involvement.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** policy on the management of forests in British Columbia should continue to be managed through a rigorous, science-based approach;

**AND THAT** UBCM calls on the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to continue to support working forests on Vancouver Island and in British Columbia;

**AND THAT** Council calls on all forest-based communities to develop similar motions to further support working forests in British Columbia;

**AND THAT** the above motion be sent to the Union of BC Municipalities and AVICC for late submissions;

**AND THAT** the above motion be distributed to the Council of Forest Industries.

Board Meeting  
JUN 10 2021  
CCRD ITEM C)+)





May 17, 2021

Honourable Katrin Conroy  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
and Rural Development  
Victoria, BC  
Via Email: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)



Dear Minister Conroy,

We write to you today in relation to the letter from the District of Sooke dated March 8, 2021 calling for a Moratorium on Recreational Wolf Hunting on Vancouver Island. The letter references the District of Oak Bay's AVICC resolution to *"implement a moratorium on recreational wolf hunting on Vancouver Island, pending completion of a scientific, data-driven and evidence-based study that includes consultation with the Island's Indigenous communities, to re-examine the efficacy of unrestricted wolf harvesting practices and their impacts on the Island's biodiversity, wildlife ecology and sustainability of the resident wolf population."*

We respect and support our local government peers taking an active role in using their voice to improve provincial policy. We wish to observe, however, that the hunting and trapping of wolves is not unrestricted within Region 1 (Vancouver Island). Rather, the current synopsis specifies harvest limits, methods, dates, closed or restricted geographic areas, as well as guidelines for compulsory inspections, which is required for all wolves harvested in Region 1.

There may be excellent reasons to suspend hunting wolves in a certain geographic location, or for a certain sub-species while the matter is scientifically studied (including to determine if a population is sufficiently distinct to be categorized as a sub-species). However, a blanket moratorium ignores other important issues such as instances of aggressive wolves that threaten humans or agricultural livestock.

Vancouver Island is home to two large game ungulates – Roosevelt elk and Columbia black-tailed deer, while also being home to three big game predators – grey wolves, cougars, and black bears (and, as noted in the synopsis, now some grizzly bears on the north end of the Island). A blanket moratorium on one of our large predators risks creating a negative imbalance on Region 1 big game wildlife management, especially to our deer and elk populations.



The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors supports a balanced, fact-based, scientific discussion on this matter (a discussion that must be necessarily broad to include First Nations, wildlife interest groups, recreational hunters, biologists, etc.) and we thank our peers in Sooke for raising this issue and the Minister and her staff for their studied approach.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Jack". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Jack, Chairperson

cc: AVICC  
AVICC Local Government Membership





The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office  
 770 Vernon Avenue Victoria BC V8X 2W7 | T 250-475-5510 | F 250-475-5440 | www.saanich.ca

*Sent via email*

June 1, 2021

British Columbia Elected Officials  
 BC Chief Administrative Officers

**Re: British Columbia Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Ending**

This letter will confirm that Council, at their meeting held May 17, 2021, considered a staff report on the end of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and resolved as follows:

*"That Council:*

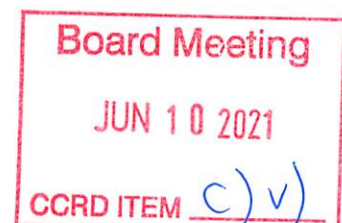
1. *Receive for information the report of the Director of Planning dated May 13, 2021.*
2. *Direct the Mayor to send a letter to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy; the Minister of Finance, and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) based upon the draft provided, detailing the impact of cancelling the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and the need for a swift replacement that provides consistent, non-application funding to allow the District of Saanich and other municipalities to continue their work at a scale that can deliver on the Provincial CleanBC Plan and Municipal Climate Plans.*
3. *Direct staff to draft a resolution to UBCM on a replacement CARIP program and present this to Council for consideration prior to the June 30, 2021 submission deadline.*
4. ***Share this report and attachments with the Capital Regional District Board of Directors, other BC municipal elected officials and Chief Administrative Officers in advance of the UBCM Conference in September, 2021."***

A copy of the report and draft meeting minutes are attached for information.

Sincerely,

Fred Haynes  
 Mayor  
 Enclosures

cc: Saanich Council  
 Sharon Hvozdzanski, Director of Planning, District of Saanich  
 Valla Tinney, Director of Finance, District of Saanich



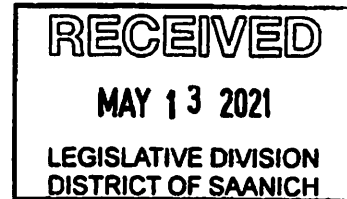




The Corporation of the District of Saanich

## Report

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Sharon Hvozdzanski, Director of Planning  
**Date:** May 13, 2021  
**Subject:** Ending the B.C. Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)  
 File: 1300-50 • Provincial Governments



### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive this report for information.
2. That Council send a letter to: Premier John Horgan; the Minister of Municipal Affairs; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) based upon the draft provided in Attachment 2, detailing the impact of cancelling the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and the need for a swift replacement that provides consistent, non-application funding to allow the District of Saanich and other municipalities to continue their work at a scale that can deliver on the Provincial CleanBC Plan and Municipal Climate Plans.
3. That Council direct staff to draft a resolution to the Union of B.C. Municipalities on a Replacement CARIP Program and present this to Council for consideration prior to the June 30, 2021 submission deadline.
4. That Council share this report and attachments with the Capital Regional District Board of Directors, other B.C. municipal elected officials and Chief Administrative Officers in advance of the Union of B.C. Municipalities Conference in September, 2021.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding:

- The announced end to the Provincial Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP);
- The implications this has for District of Saanich climate action; and
- Proposed next steps.

### DISCUSSION

**Provincial Announcement - Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)**  
 In terms of background, the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) is a conditional grant program that provides funding to local governments that have signed the B.C. Climate



**Action Charter.** This funding equals 100% of the carbon taxes a local government pays to support their operations.

The program requires local governments to report annually on their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and encourages investment in climate action to help the Province deliver on its commitment to carbon neutrality. Since the Climate Charter was launched in 2007, 187 of 190 municipalities, regional districts and the Islands Trust have signed up, providing the Province with a comprehensive database of municipal corporate emissions inventories and corporate and community climate actions implemented at the local level.

On May 11, 2021 the Deputy Minister, and Assistant Deputy Minister for the Local Government Division of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs called a meeting with all Municipal and Regional District Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) to announce the end of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program. It was indicated that this decision was a direct result of the recently introduced Provincial Budget. A follow up e-mail was then issued that includes information shared at the meeting (see Attachment 1).

The Province has outlined that 2020 will be the final year for reporting, with the final grant paid to local governments in 2021. They indicated that at this stage no replacement program with unconditional funding is planned and future programs would be application based. They aim to work with local governments through UBCM and the Green Communities Committee on further supporting the CleanBC goals.

In light of the Federal government's renewed climate commitments prior to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), the withdrawal of this consistent provincial funding source for climate action was extremely unexpected and it is clear that local governments have not been engaged in this decision.

## **Implications**

### **Loss of Consistent Funding**

The District of Saanich has participated in the CARIP program since signing the Climate Charter in 2007 and has benefited from more than \$1.3 million over the last 10 years, with approximately \$150,000 annually in recent years.

This funding has been used within the Sustainability Division of the Planning Department to support staff wages, implement community climate mitigation and adaptation projects and to leverage larger climate related grant applications, which often require a substantial contribution from the local government partner.

Examples of projects supported by CARIP funding include, but are not limited to:

- Feasibility analysis, design and installation of multiple rounds of public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations;
- Communications campaigns for home energy efficiency upgrades, the Oil to Heat Pump program and Better Home BC rebates;
- Municipal top-ups to provincial rebates for home energy retrofits;



- Analysis and engagement to support the introduction of the Saanich Greener Garbage program and the BC Energy Step Code;
- Funding for the B.C. Sustainable Energy Association (BCSEA) CoolIt! School climate leadership education program;
- Installation and maintenance of Bike kitchens at Saanich facilities;
- Support for engagement and analysis related to electric mobility and development of the Electric Mobility Strategy; and
- Workshops on local food production and processing.

Until approval of the 2021 Budget in May of this year, CARIP has been the main source of sustained and consistent funding for community focused climate action at the District of Saanich, with the Carbon Fund used for corporate climate action projects. While Council has committed to multiple one-time resource requests to support climate action where opportunities arose or costs exceeded CARIP funding, this approach does not provide the reliability afforded by the CARIP program. As such, CARIP has been instrumental in the development of a District of Saanich Sustainability Division and the hiring and retention of sustainability staff. Many other B.C. municipalities will have sustainability staff that are still resourced through CARIP funding.

Therefore, the clear lack of a replacement program that provides a consistent and reliable funding source for municipal climate action and the shift towards solely competitive funding streams and programs is of major concern.

Competitive funding programs and grants require significant effort, staff time and, often, financial resources to fund the analysis needed for an application with no guarantee of success. They also take substantial time and resources for evaluation by the decision making body. We regularly hear that grant programs and competitive funding streams are highly competitive and over-subscribed. In addition, they rely on match funding or financial contributions from the local government partner.

In the absence of either the CARIP program or a similar source of consistent funding, many municipalities will be limited in their ability to apply for such competitive programs or grants and it will be extremely difficult to develop work plans and implement climate programs that span multiple years based upon this competitive funding approach. This change is being implemented in a time of particular uncertainty when there is an overwhelming demand for municipal tax dollars to support core municipal services and local governments have limited ability to pivot on budget decisions. Removing dedicated climate action funding will create a shortfall that is unlikely to be met by many local governments through the municipal tax base.

#### Loss of Coordinated Reporting & Data

Saanich has recently committed to developing a comprehensive annual climate report card that aligns with the goals and actions outlined in the Climate Plan and Electric Mobility Strategy. Further, we report on community-wide GHG emissions through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) using the globally recognized Global Protocol for Community Scale GHG Emissions Inventories (GPC Basic+). However, there are only a limited number of B.C. municipalities that are providing this level of climate reporting.



The CARIP program established a consistent climate reporting template for all B.C. local governments that had signed onto the Climate Charter and represents over a decade of publicly accessible data on municipal climate action. This is a true example of global best practice in coordinated climate reporting. Local government have spent significant effort building internal capacity and restructuring reporting systems to align with CARIP and the process has, in many municipalities, supported the development of strategic plans for climate action, monitoring and reporting on progress and the regular cross-departmental collaboration necessary to identify opportunities for climate related projects and programs.

### **Proposed Next Steps**

Some amendments to the CARIP process and report template would be valuable and local governments can provide important insight moving forward. For instance, as Saanich and other municipalities move towards our corporate GHG reduction targets and increase our requirements for contractor climate responsibilities, we will pay less carbon tax as a result. While this should be addressed by an increase in the carbon tax in the short term, as we get close to our zero carbon targets, the CARIP funding will be reduced. In addition, funding based on fossil fuel consumption may be perceived as rewarding a lack of progress. As such, changes to the program could include the move from a carbon tax refund based upon fossil fuel consumption to one based on municipal population. However, there remains considerable benefit to continuing with a climate program that provides consistent funding tied to the delivery of a simple annual climate report.

A draft letter to: Premier John Horgan; the Ministry of Municipal Affairs; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) is included as Attachment 2 for Council's consideration.

This letter outlines the value of the CARIP program and associated funding to the District of Saanich and the considerable implications for the program's end. It advocates for the Province to engage local governments in the design and implementation of a replacement program that offers consistent funding that is comparable to or greater than that is currently provided by CARIP. Program funding should be used for climate action (mitigation and adaptation), tied to a requirement for annual reporting on progress towards climate goals and should be in place for the first payments to be received by municipalities in 2022. It is recommended that Council sends this letter to the Provincial officials listed above.

In addition, there is the opportunity for Council to submit an endorsed resolution directly to UBCM prior to June 30, 2021 that would address the impact of ending the CARIP program and propose the swift development of a suitable replacement. It is recommended that Council direct staff to draft such a UBCM resolution for their consideration.

Finally, it is recommended that this Council report and attachments be shared with the CRD Board, other B.C. municipal elected officials and Chief Administrative Officers in support of an additional coordinated response and discussion at the UBCM Conference in September 2021.



## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That Council approve the recommendations as outlined in this report.
2. That Council reject the recommendations as outlined in this report.
3. That Council provide alternate direction to staff.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The District of Saanich has participated in the CARIP program since signing the Climate Charter in 2007 and has benefited from more than \$1.3 million from the program over the last 10 years. In 2020, CARIP funding amounted to \$154,072. This forms a substantial portion of the Sustainability Division's budget. Should a similar Provincial program that provides consistent funding for municipal climate action not be developed to replace CARIP by 2022, then staff will need to bring forward a resource request to Council as part of the 2022 budget to ensure the required sustained funding necessary, to effectively deliver on the Climate Plan actions and goals. As always, staff will continue to apply for senior government and other sources of external funding. That said, the time spent seeking out and applying for external funding draws valuable staff resources away from work on corporate and community GHG initiatives.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

The 2021 Council Budget requests and Sustainability Division and Planning Department work plans have been developed on the understanding that the CARIP program will continue. As such, removal of this funding without a suitable and consistent replacement impacts the ability to deliver on the 2019-2023 Council Strategic Plan Goal: 'Climate Action and Environmental Leadership', most notably the initiative to implement Saanich's Climate Plan.

## **CONCLUSION**

CARIP has been a valuable source of consistent and dedicated funding over the last decade, allowing municipalities to take action on climate change by resourcing staff, undertaking key emissions reduction projects and leveraging larger climate related grants. It is a true example of global best practice in coordinated and consistent climate reporting by local governments at the provincial level.

On May 11, 2021 the Ministry of Municipal Affairs announced the end of the CARIP program, with the final grant paid to local governments in 2021. This amounts to a loss of approximately \$150,000 in consistent annual funding to the District of Saanich, which is used to address climate change.

In light of the Provincial commitment to climate action outlined in CleanBC and the Federal government's renewed climate commitments prior to COP26, the end of the CARIP program and withdrawal of this consistent provincial funding source was extremely unexpected and it is clear that local governments have not been engaged in the decision. The absence of a replacement program and shift towards competitive funding applications has considerable implications for dedicated municipal staffing and actions on climate change and jeopardises a decade's worth of work monitoring and reporting on local government GHG emissions and progress.



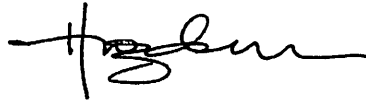
As such, staff are recommending that Council advocate to the Province via letter to the Premier, appropriate Ministries and UBCM, for a swift replacement of the CARIP program with consistent, non-application based funding, tied to annual climate reporting and that this be followed by a Council endorsed resolution submitted to UBCM addressing the same. This will allow municipalities to continue their work at a scale necessary to address the Climate Emergency and deliver on CleanBC and Municipal Climate Plan goals.

Prepared by:



Rebecca Newlove, Manager of Sustainability

Approved by:



Sharon Hvozdzanski, Director of Planning

RN/jsp

- Attachments:**
1. E-mail from Province of BC, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Re: CARIP Reporting 2020, May 11, 2021
  2. Draft Letter to Premier John Horgan, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM)

cc: Valla Tinney, Director of Finance

**ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS:**

I endorse the recommendation from the Director of Planning



Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer



**Jon Poole**

---

**From:** Rebecca Newlove  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 11:11 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Newlove  
**Subject:** Re: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020

**From:** INFRA MUNI:EX [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 12:40 PM  
**To:** INFRA MUNI:EX <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** (External Email) Re: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

**To: All Municipal and Regional District Chief Administrative Officers and Chief Financial Officers**

**Re: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020**

Many thanks to all who joined Deputy Minister Okenge Yuma Morisho and me on today's call about the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), please accept our apologies for the technical difficulties on the call that some experienced. This email includes the information that was shared during the call. We want to emphasize that local governments throughout British Columbia have shown great leadership on climate action. The province is committed to working with local governments to reach our climate goals and make life better for people across British Columbia.

For those who were unable to attend or hear due to some technical difficulties on the call, I wish to inform you and your staff that the CARIP will be wrapping up in the 2021/22 fiscal year. During this final program year, local governments will be required to complete and submit the 2020 Carbon Tax Calculation Form. **This will be the only reporting requirement.**

All program information is available on the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs' CARIP webpage](#). In particular, we encourage you to review the CARIP [Program Guide](#) for 2020 prior to completing the 2020 [Carbon Tax Calculation Form](#).

### **CARIP Reporting Requirement**

1. **2020 Carbon Tax Calculation Form (submission deadline: August 6, 2021)**  
 Complete and submit a signed electronic version of the form to [REDACTED]. This form requires Financial Officer certification.

The end of the CARIP program should not be interpreted as the Province pulling back from the productive relationship we have and we look forward to working with UBCM, through the Green Communities Committee, to support the goals of the Climate Action Charter.

Under CleanBC, the Province of British Columbia has put a priority on reducing pollution, boosting energy-efficient solutions and building a low-carbon economy. Local governments will continue to be a key partner in



our collective efforts to address the challenges of a changing climate, playing a specific and important role in British Columbia's climate goals.

Just as local governments' actions on climate solutions have evolved in the past decade, our government is responding to support you with tools and funding programs such as:

- Updating the BC Action Climate Toolkit and the Green Communities Committee Carbon Neutral Framework.
- Investing \$110 million in combined provincial and federal funding to help local governments and Indigenous communities develop energy efficiency and clean energy projects through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program CleanBC Communities Fund.
- Working with the federal government to assess the climate impacts of all major infrastructure being funded under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to reduce GHG emissions and increase resilience to climate change, which benefits communities and creates jobs.
- Boosting active transportation infrastructure with \$18 million through the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
- Making sure commuters can get out of their cars with historic investments in public transit, such as the Broadway Subway Line, and free transit for kids 12 and under starting this September.

Budget 2021 commits \$11 million in new funding to help local governments plan for compact, energy-efficient communities, directly supporting the Climate Action Charter's commitment to create complete, compact, energy-efficient rural and urban communities. We look forward to working with all local governments through UBCM and the Green Communities Committee on how to support greener and more livable communities.

Building on record investments in CleanBC, the Province will continue to strengthen our work with local governments and support the Climate Action Charter.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry of Municipal Affairs at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Tara Faganello  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs



District of Saanich  
 Legislative Services Division t. 250-475-5501  
 770 Vernon Ave. f. 250-475-5440  
 Victoria BC V8X 2W7 saanich.ca



May 17, 2021

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA  
 Premier of British Columbia  
 Office of the Premier  
 PO Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Govt.  
 Victoria BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Josie Osborne, MLA  
 Minister of Municipal Affairs  
 PO Box 9056 Stn. Prov. Govt.  
 Victoria BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable George Heyman, MLA  
 Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
 PO Box 9047 Stn. Prov. Govt.  
 Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Councillor Brian Frenkel  
 President, Union of B.C. Municipalities  
 Local Government House  
 525 Government Street  
 Victoria BC V8V 0A8

Dear Premier John Horgan:

**Re: B.C. Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Ending**

This letter will confirm that Council, at their meeting held May 17, 2021, considered a staff report on the end of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) (see attached) and resolved as follows:

*"That Council send a letter to: Premier John Horgan; the Minister of Municipal Affairs; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) based upon the draft provided in Attachment 2, detailing the impact of cancelling the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and the need for a swift replacement that provides consistent, non-application funding to allow the District of Saanich and other municipalities to continue their work at a scale that can deliver on the Provincial CleanBC Plan and Municipal Climate Plans;*

*That Council direct staff to draft a resolution to the Union of B.C. Municipalities on a Replacement CARIP Program and present this to Council for consideration prior to the June 30, 2021 submission deadline; and*

*That Council share this report and attachments with the Capital Regional District Board of Directors, other B.C. municipal elected officials and Chief Administrative Officers in advance of the Union of B.C. Municipalities Conference in September, 2021."*



On May 11 2021, the District of Saanich was made aware of the end to the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) through an announcement made by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

In light of the Provincial commitment to climate action outlined in CleanBC and the Federal government's renewed climate commitments prior to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), the end of the CARIP program and withdrawal of this provincial funding source for climate action was extremely unexpected and it is clear that local governments have not been engaged in the decision.

CARIP has been a critical source of consistent and dedicated funding over the years, allowing municipalities to take action on climate change by resourcing staff, funding key emissions reduction projects and leveraging larger climate related grants. It is a true example of global best practice in coordinated and consistent climate reporting, representing over a decade of data on climate action at the municipal level.

The District of Saanich has delivered a considerable number of high impact actions using CARIP funding, ranging from multiple rounds of public electric vehicle charging stations, to the analysis and engagement required to support adoption of the BC Energy Step Code. Additional examples are provided in the attached Council Report. Further, CARIP funding has been instrumental in the development of a Sustainability Division and the hiring and retention of sustainability staff, which, until 2021, were still partly resourced via CARIP funding. Many other municipalities will have staff delivering on climate action that are still resourced through the CARIP carbon tax refund.

Given this, the clear lack of a replacement program that provides a consistent and reliable funding source for municipal climate action and the shift towards solely competitive funding streams and programs is of major concern. Such programs require significant effort, staff time and, often, financial resources to fund the analysis needed for an application with no guarantee of success. They also take substantial time and resources for evaluation by the decision making body and we regularly hear that grant programs and competitive funding streams are over-subscribed. In addition, they rely on match funding or financial contributions from the local government partner. In the absence of either the CARIP program or a similar source of consistent funding, many municipalities will be limited in their ability to apply for such competitive programs. Further, this level of uncertainty makes it extremely difficult to plan for and implement climate actions that span multiple years.

While some amendments to the CARIP process and report template would be valuable, for example, the move from a carbon tax refund based upon fossil fuel consumption to one based on municipal population, there remains considerable benefit to continuing with a program that provides consistent funding tied to the delivery of a simple annual climate report.

This change is being implemented in a time of particular uncertainty when there is an overwhelming demand for municipal tax dollars to support core municipal services and local governments have limited ability to pivot on budget decisions. Removing dedicated climate action funding will create a shortfall that is unlikely to be met by many local governments through the municipal tax base.



As such, Council requests that the Province engage local governments on the swift replacement of CARIP with a program that provides consistent, non-application based funding, tied to annual climate reporting and with first payments received by local governments in 2022. This will allow municipalities to continue their work at a scale necessary to address the Climate Emergency and deliver on CleanBC and Municipal Climate Plan goals.

Sincerely,

Angila Bains, B.A., CMC,  
Manager, Legislative Services

RN/

Enclosures: Council Report:

cc. Mayor and Council  
Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Saanich  
Sharon Hvozdanski, Director of Planning, District of Saanich  
Valla Tinney, Director of Finance, District of Saanich  
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs



2560-50  
Climate Action

### **ENDING THE BC CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CARIP)**

Report of the Director of Planning dated May 13, 2021. To provide Council with information regarding:

- The announced end to the Provincial Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP);
- The implications this has for the District of Saanich Climate Action; and
- Proposed next steps.

The Manager of Sustainability provided an overview of the termination of the BC Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program.

**MOVED by Councillor Chambers and Seconded by Councillor Plant: "That Council:**

- 1. Receive for information the report of the Director of Planning dated May 13, 2021;**
- 2. Direct the Mayor to write a letter to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister of the Environment, Minister of Finance and Climate Change Strategy, and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities based upon the draft provided, detailing the impact of cancelling the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and the need for a swift replacement that provides consistent, non-application funding to allow the District of Saanich and other municipalities to continue their work at a scale that can deliver on the Provincial CleanBC Plan and Municipal Climate Plans;**
- 3. Direct staff to draft a resolution to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities on a replacement CARIP program and present this to Council for consideration prior to the June 30, 2021 submission deadline; and**
- 4. Share this report and attachments with the Capital Regional District Board of Directors, other BC municipal elected officials and the Chief Administrative Officers in advance of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities conference in September 2021."**

Council discussion ensued with the following comments:

- The cuts to funding are disappointing.

**The Motion was then Put and CARRIED**



**Courtney E. Kirk**

---

**From:** MFA  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 10:16 AM  
**Subject:** Municipal Finance Authority - Report to Members on activities during 2020 and for the first quarter of 2021  
**Attachments:** MFA Report to Members on Activities - October 1 2020 to May 1 2021.pdf  
**Importance:** High

## Welcome to this year's 1st summary report on activities of the Municipal Finance Authority –

Dear MFA members,

We are pleased to share with you the attached summary of the activities and performance of the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia during the 2020 year and the first quarter of 2021 up to May 1, 2021.

Please share this report with your respective organizations.

Please note, the MFA Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Members will take place on Monday, September 13, 2021 from 1:30-2:30pm via ZOOM. The meeting is taking place during the week-long UBCM Annual Convention. This year's UBCM Annual Convention will follow the 2020 format and will be held virtually.

Thank you,

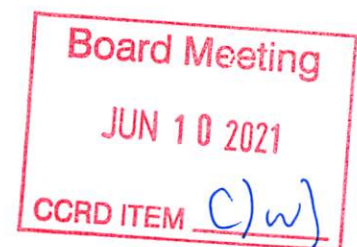
Malcolm Brodie, Chair  
 Al Richmond, Vice-Chair



**Municipal Finance  
 Authority of BC**

217-3680 Uptown Boulevard  
 Victoria, BC V8Z 0B9

250.383.1181 | mfa.bc.ca



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**Municipal Finance  
Authority of BC**

**REPORT FROM THE CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR  
ON ACTIVITIES DURING THE 2020 YEAR AND FOR THE  
FIRST QUARTER OF 2021 UP TO MAY 1, 2021**

**PURPOSE**

This report is intended to provide a summary of the activities of the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia (“MFA”) during the 2020 year and the first quarter of 2021 up to May 1<sup>st</sup>, with a focus on the activities of the past six months.

**GOVERNANCE**

**Board of Trustee Meetings**

The Board of Trustees met with management 6 times during the period of October 1, 2020 to May 1, 2021 to review operating performance, access to the financial markets, administration, and other miscellaneous items.

In addition, the Board of Trustees held several meetings of the Investment Advisory Committee which provides oversight for Pooled Investment Funds, and Trustees and management made presentations on behalf of the MFA at various local government conferences.

**2020 IN REVIEW AND LOOKING FORWARD**

Meetings of the Members were held on September 21, 2020 (Semi-Annual Meeting), March 25, 2021 (Annual General Meeting), as well as a Special Member Meeting on April 23, 2021 to approve additional requests for financing from Metro Vancouver.

From a staffing perspective, in 2020 the MFA made two additions to its staff team, hiring Connor Foreman to fulfill the Accountant role, and Steven Barley, as Manager of Information Technology.

From a program perspective, the MFA added 2 new pooled investment funds in 2020 and 2021 to the existing line, bringing the total to 8 unique offerings.

Work is continuing on the development of a new Diversified Multi-Asset Class Fund suitable for BC local government long-term reserves (not needed for 10 years or longer). Introduction is expected in late 2021, and more will be reported to the Members at the MFA’s Semi-Annual Meeting in September.



Results from operations have been very strong, and borrowing activities and lending to Members has continued unabated throughout the continuing COVID crisis.

## **RESULTS**

### **Results from Operations – Year Ending December 31, 2020**

The results for the year show a combined income from all business lines and interest earned on the Strategic Retention Fund of \$8.66 million, \$2.17 million favourable to budget. Core operating revenues were favourable by \$774,395, which is attributed primarily to both management fees earned from the pooled investment funds and sinking funds as well as securities lending being higher than expected. Primary operating expenditures were under budget by \$654,612 with savings across most line items due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Strategic Retention Fund ended the year at \$95.5 million after unrealized fair market value gains and expected credit loss provisions, a \$11.9 million increase from 2019.

### **Asset and Investment Management**

Assets under management were \$10.1 billion at the end of 2020. Assets comprise MFA's loans to clients of \$4.8 billion, representing 1,726 long-term requests for financing through 28 regional districts and three other entities. Short-term loans of \$143 million represented 103 short-term loans for financing and 342 equipment financing arrangements. Included in MFA's assets are investments of \$4.4 billion managed internally. Of these investments, \$4.2 billion are held as sinking funds which reflect payments collected from clients and invested for the future retirement of debenture obligations. The MFA also manages and invests a Debt Reserve Fund, with investments valued at \$82 million and a Retention Fund, containing investments valued at \$67 million at the end of the year.

### **Results from Operations – First Quarter 2021**

Combined income from operations and interest earned on the Strategic Retention Fund for the first quarter is \$2.25 million, \$388,656 favourable to budget. Revenues were marginally lower than budget while expenses were favourable, which is mainly attributed to timing differences in expenditures and in-person planned events remaining virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **BORROWING AND LENDING**

### **Triple A Credit Ratings**

MFA's AAA credit ratings are the best attainable and allow MFA to access capital in the markets at the most favorable interest rates. On April 21 and 22, 2021, MFA presented the annual MFA update virtually by video conference to the credit rating agencies (Moody's, Standard & Poor's (S&P), and Fitch Ratings).

The conversations were constructive and very positive overall. Questions focused on local government health during the pandemic, looming housing bubble, the DMAC Fund, direct impact of the pandemic on the MFA, refinancing risk, and capital adequacy. The agencies all



appear comfortable with the MFA's AAA ratings. Fitch confirmed the MFA's AAA ratings a few days after the meeting, and expect confirmation of ratings from Moody's and S&P over the coming weeks.

#### **Borrowing in the Capital Markets and Long-Term Lending**

The MFA issued \$1.020 million of long-term bonds in 2020 – a decrease of about \$186 million from 2019, due to a lower funding requirement for new loans to Members combined with a lower amount of maturing market debt to be refinanced. The MFA issued three debenture issues with borrowing rates of between 0.759% to 1.855%, which are low by historical standards given the market environment. Throughout 2020, the MFA continued to access the lowest long-term rates in Canada when compared to its Municipal peers. This borrowing program refinanced maturing debt and underpinned both existing client loans as well as 73 new loans aggregating roughly \$538 million to clients.

<b>New Long-Term Loans – 2020 Full Year</b>		
<b>Size</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount (\$)</b>
Less than \$1 million	36	15,524,155
Between 1 & 5 million	21	44,560,161
Between 5 & 10 million	7	49,574,258
Between 10 & 15 million	1	11,000,000
Above \$15 million	1	16,398,360
	1	30,000,000
	1	40,000,000
	1	45,000,000
	1	67,670,000
	1	68,181,819
	1	70,000,000
	1	80,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>\$537,908,754</b>

On March 30th, 2021, the MFA re-opened the 2.5% April 2026 debenture for \$450 million to fund refinancing requirements at a re-offer yield of 1.442%. The issue was 1.5x oversubscribed and well diversified between 30 investors. At the same time, the MFA launched a new 10-year 2.3% April 2031 debenture for \$200 million to fund new loan requirements at a re-offer yield of 2.308%. The issue was 1.2x oversubscribed and well diversified between 27 investors.

#### **Commercial Paper Issuance and Short-Term Lending**

At the end of 2020, the MFA had \$610 million in commercial paper outstanding to support the current and expected growth in short-term lending. The MFA issued \$4.5 billion in commercial



paper throughout 2020 in weekly auctions. Short-term loans are refinanced weekly, allowing for flexibility and efficiency for clients. This program is primarily used to provide interim financing for capital projects during construction and lending for the MFA's equipment financing program. In 2020, advances totalled \$174.2 million. Of the 132 advances, \$67.7 million was the largest.

The Commercial Paper Program continues to provide low-cost short-term and equipment financing to clients. The MFA's short-term lending rate is currently 0.93%.

The MFA has started to reduce its commercial paper and as of April 28, 2021, the MFA had \$585 million outstanding. Further reductions over the next 8 months will bring the balance outstanding to \$400 million by the Fall. The MFA continues to monitor demand for short-term loans including revenue anticipation to determine when this temporary decrease will need to be reversed.

#### **MFA POOLED INVESTMENT FUNDS**

As at	April 30, 2021	January 31, 2020	Change	1 Year Returns at April 30, 2021	
	\$ millions			Funds	Benchmark
Bond	621	548	73	2.28	1.41
Fossil Fuel Free Bond	149	-	149	-	-
Government Focused	300	241	59	0.78	0.41
Money Market	1,317	1,204	113	0.35	0.00
Mortgage Fund	82	-	82	5.42	1.30
*Pooled Interest Account	1,631	1,178	453	N/A	N/A
AUM	4,100	3,171	929		

\* Current Rate on CIBC is .80% on the first \$20 million, .50% on the next \$20 million and .22% on the remainder. National Bank and Scotiabank are .82% and .84% respectively.

MFA's activities and focus on creating new funds and renewed outreach to Members over the last few years are bearing fruit. There has been a strong uptake of MFA pooled funds products which have grown in scope and relevance to many Members. Members, who manage about \$14 billion or more in reserves investments across BC, can choose to invest on their own, but the MFA pooled fund propositions have become more attractive to more clients, as we have refined and expanded available options.



## **ESG (ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE) DISCLOSURES**

Investment activities that take into account ESG factors have been a topic of growing interest to many investors around the world. In fact, it has become a topic of much interest to many local government investors in BC.

The ESG landscape is quite complex and continues to evolve at a rapid pace without much clarity or agreement on best practices. In this fast evolving and undefined landscape, “greenwashing”, or untruthful marketing of the environmental benefits of a given investment, is rampant. The MFA urges Members to be suspect of the marketing campaigns employed by financial institutions and brokers selling “green” products. Local government finance staff are quite diligent at carefully analyzing investments, but the MFA is seeing a rising pressure from brokers or even council members in considering inferior investments that have limited ESG merit.

The biggest hurdle to ESG investing by investors is a lack of standardized reporting by companies or other organizations, such as the MFA, raising money in the public capital markets. For responsible investing to be of value, one must have comparable data. North American entities have been laggards in producing ESG disclosures over the last decade or so, while corporations and public sector entities in Europe are far ahead. Government entities similar to the MFA (infrastructure banks) as well as federal and regional governments in Europe have been making these disclosures for a long time now. This is one of the reasons the MFA, which competes for global capital with these entities, will also start disclosing what it can and refine those disclosures over time.

## **2021 BUSINESS PLAN**

Over the last 5 years, the MFA has been on a transformational journey as it modernizes and adds even greater value for clients, such as –

- Increasing education and sponsorship support as a third pillar of services offered;
- Building resilience by strategically adding additional team members while increasing and formalizing cross-training;
- Implementing new tools and processes in financial management systems to reduce risk and manual effort;
- Launching new investment products to meet evolving client needs and market changes; and
- Updating technology systems and increasing cybersecurity through cloud-based solutions.

The 2021 business plan is driven by the MFA’s 5 key strategic focus areas of Stakeholder Engagement, Resilience & Capacity, Professional Financial Management, Program Development & Improvement, and Technology Support & Security.



## **TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP & CYBERSECURITY**

2020 was a pivotal year for technology advancement, operational support, and risk mitigation for the MFA. Over the last several years, the MFA has essentially been building a small scale Technology Department, which began with the addition of in-house programming capabilities. In late 2019, the MFA began work on a plan to improve technology systems and support that will increase organizational resilience, expand operational capacity, and diminish risk. In 2020, despite the onset of the pandemic, significant advances were made on these fronts while in-sourcing the MFA's IT network / data / software support function.

While the MFA is creating a department with structure and supports that are appropriate for the financial nature of the MFA's business, the needs of its unique client group, and the organization's size, the MFA is also undertaking essential projects to secure and modernize its technology environment. This work is necessary to maintain program data and service delivery to stakeholders and benefits every functional area of the MFA. This foundational work will be completed in 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the need for a strong, cross-trained team, the infrastructure to support remote work if needed, the security rationale to enable distributed business operations, and the need to have plans to support all of these elements. The MFA continues to work towards completion of its Technology Roadmap to fully realize these goals.

### **2021 Technology Targets**

The MFA's overarching themes are to become defensibly cybersecurity and to use technology to accomplish more with less in fulfilling its Vision & Mandate –

- MFA will be defensibly cyber secure;
- MFA does not live at the bleeding edge of technology, but does not fall behind either;
- MFA will increase business operations excellence through technology; and
- MFA will create professional IT operations and execution of technology work.

## **SPONSORSHIP & EDUCATION SUPPORT**

The MFA is a major, non-commercial supporter of BC's local government elected official and staff events and conferences each year. The MFA primarily supports financial education, in direct line with its mandate. The MFA also supports training in management, leadership, and cybersecurity, which has become a major operational and financial issue in the Local Government sector globally. The total education and sponsorship contribution for 2020 was \$144,000, while the budget for 2021 is \$218,000.

2020 was a challenging year for 'colleague' organizations and their chapters that put on regularly scheduled events which the MFA sponsors. Organizations had to rapidly decide whether to cancel, postpone, or pivot to a virtual delivery model. As the MFA was itself making

these choices, it also worked collaboratively with organizers to ensure timely continuation of support as needed.

The MFA remains committed to the provision of education focused on finance and business best practices for clients and refer to this as the 'third pillar' alongside MFA's lending and investment programs. This practice builds financial and operational strength for clients and expands and benefits the MFA's reputation as being part of the local government system as opposed to a 'commercial' service provider. This is a keyway the MFA differentiates itself from for-profit competitors and demonstrates its value for BC local governments. During this unusual time, MFA believes it is more important than ever to support these organizations as they adapt and support their own member communities.

### SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

The Semi-Annual Meeting of MFA is scheduled to be held on Monday, September 13, 2021, from 1:30-2:30pm via ZOOM. The meeting is taking place during the week-long UBCM Annual Convention.

Submitted by:



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