

July 30, 2015

Honourable Rich Coleman Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing Parliament Buildings Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

## Dear Minister:

On behalf of the people of British Columbia, I would like to thank you for the contributions made by you and your ministry over the past 12 months to make our province stronger.

You have been part of a government that has continued to deliver on the promises we made in our election platform, Strong Economy, Secure Tomorrow during the past 24 months. Balancing the budget for a third time, having our triple A credit rating confirmed and re-confirmed as stable by Moody's Investors Service, and continuing to support the growth of a diverse economy are all accomplishments of which we collectively and you individually can be rightly proud.

I am very pleased to note that you and each of your colleagues were again able to live within your voted legislative budgets. The people of our province elect us to work on their behalf—to control spending.

Living within our means is demonstrating our respect for the people of our province and the tax dollars they send to Victoria. By keeping government lean and reducing the cost of administration, we can make significant investments in people and the infrastructure on which they depend to succeed in a strong and growing economy.

As a result of our strong fiscal position, we have been able to provide new assistance to single parents as they return to the workforce, greater income exemptions for single parents on income assistance and continued record investments in funding for public health care, education and transportation—services on which families depend.

Our government is resolute in our desire to grow the economy as a way to enable more British Columbians to participate in the economy and obtain meaningful, family-supporting work. The work your ministry does each and every day to contribute to these efforts are noticed and valued.

In particular, I would like to congratulate you and your ministry for:

- Your work towards signing the first Project Development Agreement between the Province and Pacific Northwest LNG
- The introduction of the new Building Act that supports increased efficiency, productivity and innovation in our provincial construction sector
- Launching the Homeless Prevention Program to provide rent supplements and support services to people at risk of homelessness

As you know, the annual mandate letter you receive is designed to be an ongoing workplan for your ministry that is updated on an annual basis. You will undoubtedly notice some changes since last June.

Your mandate for the following year is as follows:

- 1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.
- 2. Work with LNG project proponents to secure signed Project Development Agreements that will lead to financially secure arrangements for both LNG developers and taxpayers.
- 3. As part of the Jobs Plan Update, update BC's Natural Gas Strategy.
- 4. Working with the Ministry of Finance, prepare legislation to enact BC's Prosperity Fund for introduction in the Spring 2017 Legislative session.
- 5. Working with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to ensure BC First Nations are able to participate in the economic development opportunities available through the creation of a new LNG industry in the province.
- 6. Successfully host the third annual LNG conference in Fall, 2015.
- 7. Work with the Ministry of Finance to make recommendations to Cabinet on the creation of a new clean infrastructure credit program.
- 8. Work with the Ministry of Environment to participate in the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion federal environmental review and ensure that the project meets our Five Conditions for considering support for heavy oil projects in BC.
- 9. Successfully conclude the elimination of routine natural gas flaring by 2016 as committed in the BC Energy Plan.
- 10. Implement regulatory changes that will enable Consumer Protection BC to oversee home inspectors in British Columbia.

- 11. Review the results of the community consultation on future uses of the Riverview Lands and make recommendations to Cabinet on potential options.
- 12. Review the Residential Tenancy Act and to reduce red tape for tenants and make improvements where appropriate.
- 13. Continue to implement Housing Matters, our provincial housing strategy to ensure citizens are able to find housing that meets their needs across British Columbia.

In addition, as discussed and approved by Cabinet, our government is committed to ensuring British Columbia government services are easily accessed by our citizens and businesses. Minister Coralee Oakes will be leading this initiative on my behalf and over the following 12 months she will be reaching out to all ministries to assist in reducing unnecessary red tape and regulation.

It is hard to believe but it has been two years since the people of British Columbia put their faith in us to lead their province. We have accomplished much in those two years, but much work remains to deliver the promise of a strong economy and secure tomorrow for our citizens. I look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Yours truly,

Christy Clark

Premier of British Columbia