



STRONG BC **BRIGHT FUTURE**

 **Today's BC Liberals**

PLATFORM 2017



LETTER FROM PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK

What makes British Columbia strong is its people. The mom and dad providing the best start for their young children while caring for their aging parents. The senior citizen who worked hard to build this province up and now needs more support. The millennial starting their adult life, ready to shape their future and contribute to the B.C. we all aspire to build.

This election is about them. It's about you.

What British Columbians expect from their government is this: a strong diverse economy, the best health and student outcomes in the country, vital infrastructure to grow our communities, the lowest possible tax burden, and the protection of our province's magnificent environment.

It's about securing a bright future for all of us - and the people that we love.

And the best way to do that is together, with a strong plan.

The foundation of our plan is controlling government spending and cutting taxes for the middle class to create jobs and grow the economy.

And it's working. Thanks to you, British Columbia is leading the nation in economic growth. More British Columbians are working than ever before. Which means we can invest in what matters most: student achievement and healthy outcomes.

Our BC Liberal platform is focused on moving forward for a Strong BC. Bright Future:

- » Delivering a billion-dollar middle class tax cut and adding to it as the economy grows
- » Putting British Columbians first in housing and supporting young people to own their home and build their nest-egg
- » Getting to nine consecutive balanced budgets to eliminate government's operating debt for the first time in 40 years so that we can invest in you, not banks
- » Making record new investments in schools, hospitals, transit and roads
- » Becoming a global leader in tech, tourism, film and advanced manufacturing
- » Continuing to grow diverse new markets for agriculture and natural resources like BC's clean natural gas, mining and forestry

To deliver on our commitments to you, we have to keep our focus and determination more than ever before. The global economy remains fragile. Protectionism is on the rise. There is a softwood lumber dispute brewing in the U.S. Risk is all around us.

Together, we will build a Strong BC and Bright Future for the:

- » 112,209 people who bought a home last year
- » 4,600 moms and dads who started their path from welfare to work under the Single Parent Employment Initiative
- » 23,780 people who got married and started a family
- » 426,000 students – young and old – completing their post-secondary education right now
- » 44,405 babies born last year right here

For all of those British Columbians, and for all you. Let's keep moving forward.



A portrait of a woman with short, wavy brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a teal blazer over a white top, a silver necklace with a circular pendant, and pearl earrings. The background is a blurred indoor setting with large windows and warm lighting.

STRONG BC **BRIGHT FUTURE**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

STRONG BC, BRIGHT FUTURE

Strong BC, Bright Future – that’s our plan and vision for British Columbia. Since Christy Clark became Premier in 2011, British Columbia has been on a roll. We are first in economic development, first in job growth, and we have the lowest unemployment in Canada.



We’ve been focused on creating jobs, growing a diverse economy, and controlling government spending in order to leave more money in the pockets of people. Our plan is delivering results.

But we cannot lose focus. We’re surrounded by risk – a rising tide of protectionism south of the border, fragile economies around the world and across our country, even right next door. Now, more than ever, it is important that we continue to stick to our plan.

This election is about a choice – move forward with Today’s BC Liberals to create jobs in a growing economy while controlling spending to keep taxes low, or backwards with the BC NDP or BC Greens to bigger government, job losses, and higher taxes.

WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED – HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Five balanced budgets in a row
- ✓ Lowest personal income taxes for those making under \$125K
- ✓ Second highest average disposable incomes in Canada
- ✓ Leading the country with over 220,000 new jobs since 2011
- ✓ Building and expanding hospitals, schools, and roads to support healthy communities
- ✓ Record new investments in health care, education, and skills training.
- ✓ Investing in 100 years of clean, reliable, affordable power with Site C
- ✓ Strong action to keep home ownership within reach for the middle class
- ✓ Helping 4,600 moms and dads get off social assistance through the Single Parent Employment Initiative
- ✓ Five Conditions on heavy oil pipelines have secured strong environmental protection and economic benefits for B.C.
- ✓ 5,000 new affordable housing units for those who need them most
- ✓ Global leadership on climate action and protected areas

1. IT ALL STARTS WITH A JOB:

- » Creating jobs and economic growth with the best trained workforce:
 - › Creating 1,000 new grads in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math disciplines, on top of the 1,000 coming
 - › Investing \$87 million in the BC Tech Strategy
 - › Coding in classrooms for Grades 6 to 9
 - › New innovation hub at Robson Square
- » Maintaining the most diversified economy in Canada:
 - › Ensuring B.C. tech business are first in line for government contracts
 - › Standing up for B.C. on softwood issue
 - › Goal of three LNG plants moving to construction by 2020
 - › Responsible development of the Montney oil and gas reserves
 - › Supporting a new hops industry in B.C.
 - › Expand Buy Local and Grow Local to encourage local food production
 - › Diversifying markets for wood products in China and India
 - › Adding to the Rural Dividend and high-speed connectivity

2. KEEP MORE OF YOUR HARD-EARNED MONEY:

- » Billion-dollar middle class tax cut:
 - › Moving to eliminate MSP over the long term, starting with cutting premiums in half for families and individuals with family net income of up to \$120,000 per year – saving families up to \$900 a year
- » Leaving more money in the pockets of British Columbians:
 - › Personal income tax freeze
 - › Capping bridge tolls at \$500 annually for commuters
 - › New tax credit for BC Ferries users in ferry dependent communities
 - › Maintaining the carbon tax freeze
 - › New Active Seniors Tax Credit, New Respite Tax Credit, and increasing the Renovation Tax Credit
 - › Cutting the small business tax to 2%
 - › Phasing out PST on electricity for all businesses, like for homes
- » Spending within our means:
 - › Committing to four more balanced budgets, protecting B.C.'s AAA credit rating
 - › Eliminating B.C.'s operating debt by 2021
 - › Negotiating fair, affordable long term contracts with public service

3. SMART, MODERN BRITISH COLUMBIA:

- » Supporting smart, modern changes in B.C.:
 - › Bringing ridesharing to B.C.
 - › Helping the middle class buy homes
 - › Changing scope of practice to help British Columbians get the health care they need
 - › New marketing and apps to help market B.C. wine, cider, craft beer and distilled products
 - › More money for B.C.'s open textbooks program that saves students money
 - › New Surrey Charter to recognize one of the fastest growing cities in Canada
- » Investing in infrastructure and transit:
 - › Matching the federal government's \$2.2 billion investment in Metro Vancouver transit, and \$333 million to keep BC Transit moving
 - › Significant regional transportation investments, like the Cariboo Connector and Malahat
 - › Build the George Massey replacement bridge
 - › 100 years of clean energy with Site C

4. CREATING OPPORTUNITY:

- » Maintaining our world leading K-12 system:
 - › Reviewing the funding formula for school districts
 - › Adding significant funds for enrollment growth across the province
 - › Funding teacher retention in rural communities
- » Supporting post-secondary sector:
 - › Redirecting investments to focus on skills better aligned with in-demand programs
 - › \$2.6 billion in capital spending by post-secondary institutions
 - › One stop shop for student applications

5. HEALTHY, STRONG COMMUNITIES:

- » Caring for people and communities:
 - › New LIFT program to help working single parents access training
 - › Up to 13,000 new child care spaces by 2020
 - › \$2.7 billion towards new hospitals over three years
 - › 500 additional long-term care beds
 - › 5,500 more hip and knee surgeries over the next two years
 - › Protecting communities with funding for Guns & Gangs Strategy
 - › Significant investments in child and youth mental health
 - › Early warning systems for schools and hospitals
- » Protecting and enhancing our environment:
 - › Standing up for British Columbia with the five conditions to protect our coastline
 - › Adding more money for parks and new campsites

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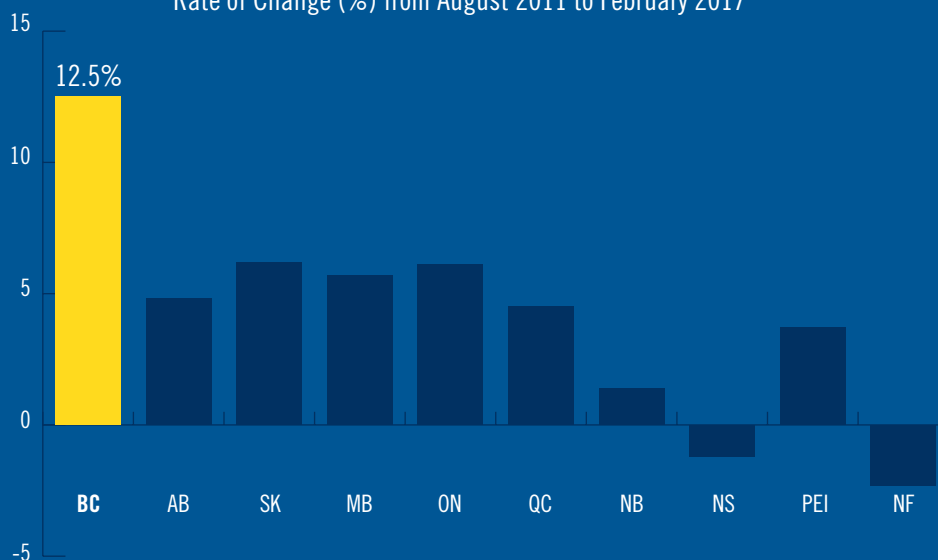
**1 IT ALL STARTS
WITH A JOB**

1. IT ALL STARTS WITH A JOB

A strong British Columbia with a bright future starts with a job – it's the foundation of a strong economy, thriving communities, as well as healthy families and individuals. **A good job is the best way to look after the people we love.** That's why in 2011, Premier Christy Clark introduced the BC Jobs Plan – our strategy to drive economic growth across the province. And it's working – since the BC Jobs Plan was introduced, British Columbia leads Canada in job creation – 222,200 jobs.

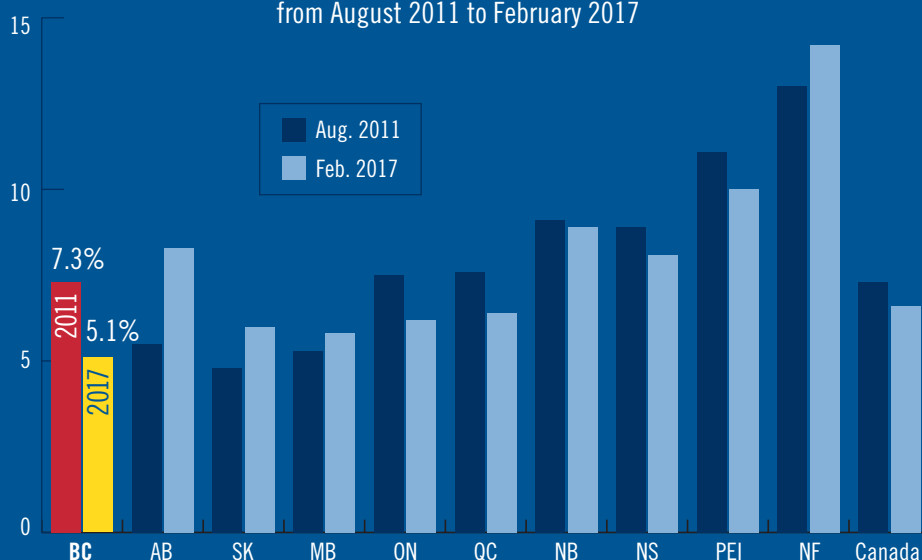
Job Growth by Province since BC Jobs Plan

Rate of Change (%) from August 2011 to February 2017



Unemployment Rate by Province since BC Jobs Plan

from August 2011 to February 2017



BC NDP Decade of Decline:

- B.C. became a have-not province under the **BC NDP** in the 1990s.
- The **BC NDP** took British Columbia from first to worst in job creation. (Statistics Canada)
- B.C. was dead last in investment and job growth under the **BC NDP**. (Statistics Canada)
- British Columbia had the highest unemployment rate in Western Canada, every single year under the **BC NDP**. (Statistics Canada)
- B.C. suffered six credit downgrades under the **BC NDP**.
- 50,000 people left the province in the last four years of the **BC NDP**. (B.C. Statistics and Statistics Canada)

After they took B.C.'s economy from first to worst in the 1990s, **John Horgan and the BC NDP** are promising to do the same again by opposing nearly every single job creating resource project in the province. While **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** are promising to shut down job creating projects like Site C, and bring in a massive increase to the carbon tax. You can't create jobs if you don't support resource projects. And you can't afford a billion-dollar middle class tax cut if you say no to jobs.

BC NDP Economics

NDP trims forecast for B.C. growth (Vancouver Sun, October 3, 1996)

BC Greens = massive tax hike

B.C. Greens would double provincial carbon tax (Vancouver Sun, March 31, 2017)]

We are faced with an increasingly protectionist jurisdiction to our south, rising debt and deficits in provinces around us, and a weak global economy. A Jobs Plan that is focused on protecting British Columbia from the instability around us is more important than ever.

"The Burnaby Board of Trade believes that British Columbia benefits greatly from distinguishing itself as a jurisdiction with sound economy policy as evidenced by balanced budgets, surpluses, and a triple AAA credit rating, especially given the recent uncertainty surrounding economic and trade policy across much of the world."

Burnaby Board of Trade (Policy Bulletin, Feb. 21, 2017)



B.C. is working - The BC Jobs Plan

More people are working in British Columbia than ever before. In 2016 alone, employment activity grew by 3.2% or 73,300 jobs. That success is the result of the hard work of everyday British Columbians. But as a province, we can't rest on our laurels. That's why our BC Jobs Plan includes new, ambitious targets:

1. British Columbia will be the most diversified economy in Canada by 2022.
2. The Province will continue to ensure British Columbians are first in line for the nearly one million job openings through 2025.
3. British Columbia will be a leader in Canada in driving innovation and competitiveness, while demonstrating climate leadership.
4. British Columbia will continue to be a leader in Canada in breaking down barriers to business and trade and supporting the export capacity of B.C. businesses.

“We work to create jobs because that’s the single best way to take care of the people we love, and give British Columbians more ways to build their own lives.”

Premier Christy Clark (Facebook, January 23, 2017)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BC JOBS PLAN:

- ✓ Phase out PST on electricity for businesses, just like homeowners
- ✓ Create an additional 1000 new grads in technology
- ✓ Additional \$87 million toward the BC Tech Strategy
- ✓ Extend the BC Training Tax Credit
- ✓ Cutting the small business tax rate to help spur job growth



Jobs of the future, today – The #BCTech Strategy

British Columbia should aspire to be a global leader in tech, right here in Canada's Asian Pacific Gateway. And our tech sector is thriving. With over 10,200 companies employing over 106,000 people in the sector, tech is key to current and future economic growth

in the province. The sector contributed \$14.1 billion to the province's economy in 2015 alone.

The tech industry is home to highly sought after, green jobs – with earnings 75% higher than the provincial average. Whether you are a current student, recent high school graduate, or a parent thinking about your child's future, more and more British Columbians are looking to the green jobs of the tech industry for a future career.

Recognizing the opportunity in this sector, we launched the #BCTech Strategy – our plan to grow jobs and unleash the creative talents of tech companies and employees across British Columbia.

The strategy has four key goals:

1. Job growth in the tech sector will remain above the provincial average and reach 120,000 by 2020.
2. Investment in the B.C. tech sector will be increased by up to \$100 million by 2020.
3. British Columbia will become a leader in the innovation economy by working to increase the talent pool by 1,000 grads per year by 2022, with increased graduates in regions throughout the province.
4. Increase the number of tech companies with 10 or more employees by 20% by 2021.

“The \$87 million committed to the #BCTech Strategy will jumpstart our efforts to diversify BC's economy.”

*Santa Ono (President, University of British Columbia,
Twitter, February 21, 2017)*

Pillars of the #BCTech Strategy



Talent



Capital



Markets



Data

#BCTech Strategy – talent

Our plan will see more British Columbians trained and working in jobs for the next generation. Today's BC Liberals recognize that all parents want their children to have access to the best education, for the most in-demand jobs. And that's exactly what our #BCTech Strategy will do.

Talent is the first pillar of the #BCTech Strategy. That means first ensuring British Columbians get trained for in-demand tech jobs, and also that B.C.'s tech companies have access to the talent they need to continue to grow and thrive in Canada and abroad. We are increasing the number of graduates in key fields like science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) over the long term, and over the short to medium term, welcoming more people with valuable skills from Canada and other parts of the world to British Columbia.

Fostering Health Innovation – B.C.'s Life Sciences

There are a number of industries to be optimistic about in British Columbia, but perhaps none more so than British Columbia's life sciences sector.

Today's BC Liberals will establish British Columbia as a world-renowned health innovation centre that drives research and development, creating new life saving discoveries, as well as jobs. B.C. can be one of the most important centres in the world leading to both improved health outcomes and economic opportunities for British Columbians. To help lead this initiative, we will recruit a **Chief Science Officer** to shape our strategy to make British Columbia a global leader.

Personalized onco-genomics program (POG)

British Columbia is a pioneer in a world-leading clinical research initiative called personalized onco-genomics (POG) to fight cancer. POG is a research initiative to better understand genomic sequencing of different types of cancer in order to create direct, personalized and targeted cancer treatment for patients. Dr. Marco Marra of the BC Cancer Agency is a shining example of what can happen when health care meets innovation.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Five consecutive years of employment growth, generating approximately 7% of the province's GDP.
- ✓ B.C.'s tech sector employs more than 106,000 British Columbians, and contributed \$14.1 billion to our overall economic output in 2015.
- ✓ Required all post-secondary institutions to include co-op programs for new technology degrees.
- ✓ Among the first jurisdictions in Canada to bring in compulsory coding modules for grades 6 to 9 so students in every region can learn coding and vital analytical and critical thinking skills for careers in tech and other sectors.
- ✓ Tech-sector training for 1,350 new and existing employees through the Canada-BC Jobs Grant.
- ✓ Provided \$500,000 to Irving K Barber Society to support scholarships at B.C. public post-secondary institutions to establish scholarships for women in technology.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Create an additional 1,000 new grads in tech supporting science, technology, engineering and math disciplines in universities and colleges across the province by 2022. Once those 1,000 additional graduates have completed their fourth year, we will expand by another 1,000.



1000 new grads in
STEM studies

- » Double the number of placements in the BC Tech co-op grants program to train post-secondary students by 2022.
- » Increase the number of placements in the MITACS internship program from 500 to 800 annually by 2020.
- » Bring some of the best and brightest people in the tech and life sciences sector to do their research in British Columbia.
- » Invest an additional \$10 million in life science research chairs and post-graduate fellows, on top of the \$10 million for the BC Science and Technology Research Chairs Program.
- » Create new STEM schools to connect high schools with post-secondary programs that support tech related industries.
- » Work with the federal government to increase the skilled tech talent immigrating to B.C.
- » Create a new Innovation Network to bridge all 25 public post-secondary institutions and industry with UBC president Santa Ono as Chief Advisor for the network.
- » Continue the Canada-BC Job Grant to help tech sector employers train new and existing staff.
- » Work with the First Nations Technology Council on their program Bridging to Technology.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

#BCTech Strategy - capital, markets, and data

Today's BC Liberals have listened to the tech community and know there is more we can do to help this sector thrive. That's why our plan will help British Columbia's tech community increase access to capital, new markets, and government data.

With new capital, tech companies in the early stages of development can get a good idea off and running. By opening up new markets in government and abroad, we can help propel the success of home-grown innovation. And by providing safe access to government data, B.C. tech companies can fine tune their programs and products to meet the needs of the market.

These three pillars of our strategy are critical to the success of many tech companies, and with our plan, we can propel our thriving tech sector into a higher gear, driving new areas of growth, and creating new jobs for today and tomorrow.

Job highlights:

Saltworks, now with over 50 employees, started in an East Vancouver apartment. Today it develops systems that produce fresh water from highly contaminated industrial wastewater.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Launched the BC Tech Fund, a \$100 million venture capital fund to address gaps in early stage funding for tech companies.
- ✓ Created 14 accelerator/incubators across the province to grow early stage technology companies by giving them the tools, training and opportunity to grow into larger enterprises
- ✓ The Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit has helped raise more than \$103 million in investment as of February 2017.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Provide an additional \$87 million toward the BC Tech Strategy.
- » Improve access to capital by:
 - › Working with industry to aggressively pursue \$950 million in federal funding under the technology clusters initiative
 - › Expanding the Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit to cover commercial applications for Augmented and Virtual Reality uses as well as the previously announced AR/VR entertainment tax credit.
 - › Increasing the Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit from \$35 million to \$38.5 million.
- » Make it easier to access new markets by:
 - › Establishing an Innovative Ideas Fund to encourage the purchase of new, innovative technology products
 - › Creating a Procurement Concierge Service to act as a “matchmaker” between government’s needs and tech innovators of all sizes.
 - › Change procurement policy so that government becomes an early purchaser of B.C. technology innovative solutions.
 - › Piloting a Startup in Residence Program where government and technology companies come together to tackle real world public sector challenges with innovative solutions
 - › Expanding B.C.’s Export Navigator pilot to help growing businesses become successful exporters
 - › Expanding U.S. Trade and Investment Offices in the Silicon Valley and establishing a presence in Seattle.
 - › Supporting Washington’s State Governor as he explores improved transportation links between the tech hubs of Seattle and Vancouver.
 - › Encouraging the federal government to support the proposed Vancouver harbour to Seattle harbour regular air service to help the movement of tech workers between the two cities.

“Our Provincial government has been practicing great business fundamentals – balancing budgets and investing in a more diversified economy – and this means they can now roll out bolder investments, laser-focused tax credits and a deeply competitive tax structure that gives businesses the choice to invest and hire more British Columbians.”

Val Litwin (President and CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce, News Release, February 21, 2017)

- » Make government data accessible for the benefit of citizens by:
 - › Creating a Centre for Data-Driven Innovation in B.C. that will serve as a comprehensive, safe and trusted platform where government data can be linked and analyzed to solve real-world problems.
- » Extend the Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Credit for a further five years to 2022.
- » Continue to support the development of accelerator/incubators as needed throughout the province.

Tech and urban renewal at Robson Square

Metro Vancouver is poised to become the most important and vibrant urban centre in Canada in the 21st century. Tech is not only a part of the fabric of Metro Vancouver, it is an engine of urban renewal. Today's BC Liberals have an exciting vision for Robson Square – right in the heart of downtown Vancouver. Designed by the great B.C. architect Arthur Erickson, Robson Square can become the place where students with ideas, taught by the best faculty, can collide with global tech giants who have located right across the street. A place where new startups will transform the landscape of the tech sector, and new transit links connect Metro Vancouver's innovation clusters: the new St. Paul's Hospital and Emily Carr campus in False Creek Flats, the life sciences cluster at Vancouver General Hospital, Simon Fraser University (SFU) and the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in Burnaby, and Innovation Boulevard in Surrey.

“Our vision is to revitalize the Robson Square district as a place where legacy meets opportunity, and where B.C. technology, education, and culture come together.”

Premier Christy Clark

We will leverage the research and work of our stellar post-secondary institutions to put Metro Vancouver firmly in the lead on the global map as a centre of tech innovation.

Looking to reimagine its presence downtown and attract thousands of new students and professionals, UBC will create a vibrant digital and data science hub that will include e-classrooms, cutting-edge programming, advanced simulations and visualization research, and technology development. Supporting the expansion of engineering, computer science, and life science programming will be 250 new UBC technology grads – part of the #BCTECH Strategy commitment to increase STEM grads by 1,000 per year.

Robson Square could become the home for key innovation centres:

- › UBC Centre for Digital Innovation
- › Talent Generator
- › UBC Centre for Digital Medicine
- › BC Innovation Impact Hub
- › BC Innovation Network

For this vision to truly succeed it is important that there would first be an open and transparent engagement process to seek the input of British Columbians on the future of Robson Square.

“It’s an important time for the Robson Square community, and Microsoft is excited to be part of it. This is another step in transforming the heart of Vancouver into an even more dynamic innovation and cultural hub and fostering greater opportunity for all in the Cascadia Corridor region.”

*Brad Smith, President of Microsoft Corporation
(BC Government News Release, April 3, 2017)*

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY’S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Reinvigorate the Robson Square district as a centre of innovation.
- » Engage former City of Vancouver Head Planner Larry Beasley to lead a consultation process, working closely with the City of Vancouver and stakeholders, including the neighbouring judiciary and Vancouver Art Gallery, to ensure the legacy of the site is appropriately honoured as it is revitalized into the innovative site envisioned.

On a roll – film, television, and gaming

It’s an understatement to say British Columbia’s film, television and digital media industries are working. The industry is breaking records thanks to a stable plan, strong private sector growth, and a deep pool of talent in our province. B.C. has attracted major new investments, creating new, high-paying jobs for British Columbians all along the way. That’s great news for those British Columbians who rely on the sector for a good job.

Job highlights

9,615 full time equivalent jobs – over eleven seasons filming Warner Brothers’ *Supernatural*.

7,087 jobs – over five seasons, and 31 communities, Warner Brother’s *Arrow*

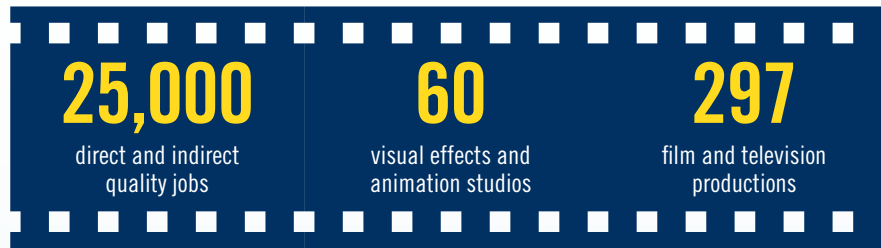
5,585 full time equivalent jobs – over the first five seasons filming ABC’s *Once Upon a Time*.

Special effects giant Double Negative opened a new state-of-the-art facility in Vancouver.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ British Columbia's motion picture industry supports approximately 25,000 direct and indirect quality jobs, and more artists than any other province.



- ✓ Over the last five years, B.C. has become one of the world's largest centres for visual effects and digital animation, with direct spending of \$2 billion in 2015-16.
- ✓ Opened the BC Film and Television Office in Los Angeles and appointed Dr. Steven Funk as the Special Envoy, Film and Digital Arts to California to enhance our industry's market presence in the region.
- ✓ Appointed Arjun Sablok as Special Envoy for Film to India to help promote B.C. to one of the largest film-producing countries in the world.
- ✓ Maintained a competitive tax environment to attract major motion pictures, television, and digital animation or visual effects jobs.
- ✓ Creative BC issued 297 domestic and international tax credit certificates totaling about \$2 billion in production expenditures in 2015/16.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Work with industry partners to attract more business from the United States and Asia, bringing more jobs, investment, and productions.
- » Conduct annual trade missions to California.
- » Work with studios to develop additional post-production space and grow the post-production industry.
- » Make B.C.'s Special Envoys for Film in the United States and India permanent.

Advanced manufacturing takes flight

Across British Columbia, young people have a number of new and growing sectors where they can aspire to work. Companies in advanced manufacturing industries are growing, creating new, well-paying jobs and careers in communities throughout the province. Thanks to our competitive tax, research, energy, and skilled workforce environments, more and more businesses in advanced manufacturing are choosing to make British Columbia their home for new investments and jobs.

Job highlights:

Viking Air on Vancouver Island delivered its 100th aircraft in 2016 and contributed an estimated \$300 million to the B.C. economy.

Seaspan invested \$170 million to transform Vancouver Shipyards and establish a shipbuilding and ship repair centre of excellence on Canada's west coast.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ British Columbia's aerospace sector is growing and now generates about \$2.5 billion in revenue annually, employing almost 9,000 British Columbians.
- ✓ Committed \$200,000 to the Association of British Columbia Marine Industries to support the development and growth of the marine sector in communities across the province.
- ✓ Seaspan expects to create over 5,600 direct jobs, and generate \$635 million of economic expansion in the province after their winning bid under Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Remove PST on electricity for advanced manufacturing industry.
 - » Extend the annual \$1 million commitment to the B.C. aerospace sector for a further three years until 2022.
 - » Work to increase the number of B.C. advanced manufacturers accessing federal defense and security procurement by 20% by the end of 2020.
- "The elimination of the PST on electricity is a welcome and strong step forward to protect and support jobs in British Columbia's pulp and paper sector."
Catalyst Paper (News Release, February 21, 2017)

Growing B.C.'s agrifood and seafood sectors

British Columbia's agrifood and seafood sectors are booming. British Columbians grow and cultivate some of the highest-quality products around the world. The sector has grown 18% since 2011 and is responsible for providing almost 63,000 jobs, supporting families in communities across the province.

BC NDP and BC Green Record – Anti-trade, anti-agriculture

- Consistently oppose free trade – the single biggest advantage we can give to B.C. farmers and ranchers looking to market their quality products around the world.
- The **BC NDP** even opposed free trade with the United States, our closest trading partner.
- **The BC Greens'** agriculture platform doesn't even mention trade – a critical success factor for the agriculture industry.
- Opposed the TPP, which would open doors in Asia to B.C. agriculture products.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ B.C. farm profits have increased by 93% since 2011.
- ✓ Agrifood and seafood export values reached an all-time high of \$3.8 billion in 2016 – a 44% increase since 2013.
- ✓ 2016 was the fourth consecutive year of record agrifood exports.
- ✓ The Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit provides a 25% tax credit on the value of farmed food donated to non-profit groups, such as food banks and school meal programs.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Increase export of agrifood and seafood products by 25% by 2020.
- » Increase domestic purchases of agrifood and seafood products by \$2.3 billion by 2020.
- » Ensure an additional 91,000 hectares of agricultural land is in production by 2020.
- » Work with North Island College to create a new Centre for Salmon Research in Campbell River.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

- » Support the construction of a new 'Agriplex' in Comox with \$5 million.
- » Provide \$500,000 for research into closed containment finfish aquaculture.
- » Provide a further \$5 million to the BC Tree Fruit industry for a replant program in the Okanagan Valley.
- » Take further steps to encourage British Columbians to grow and buy locally grown food by:
 - › Doubling the 'Grow Local' program and making it permanent.
 - › Increasing the 'Buy Local' program by \$1 million starting in 2019.
- » Support small meat producers in gaining access to processing facilities.
- » Ban the use of neonicotinoid pesticides in British Columbia to protect honeybee populations.



Standing up for B.C. – softwood lumber, safety, and reforestation

British Columbia's forest industry continues to provide critical jobs that support over 140 rural communities across the province. Any political party can say they will stand up for softwood lumber workers – but you have to have a strategy that works.

Today's BC Liberals are focused on growing healthy, vibrant forests that supply high-quality wood products for a diverse, globally competitive industry to protect the over 60,000 jobs that rely on this sector. We are supporting that with a plan that fosters innovation, diversifies markets, maximizes fibre use, and reduces the risk of wildfires.

That's why we created the Forest Innovation Investment (FII) office, focused on selling our forest products in China, Japan, South Korea and now India.

"Council of Forest Industries also appreciates the Province's continued commitment to diversifying our export markets...Over the last 10 years, we have worked collaboratively to expand our markets in Asia. These efforts have produced results, and today Asia makes up about 30 per cent of the export market for B.C.'s high quality forest products."

Susan Yurkovich (President of the Council of Forest Industries, News Release, Feb 21, 2017)

But the U.S. remains a significant market. In 2016, B.C. accounted for 61% of Canada's \$7.5 billion softwood lumber trade with the United States.

Americans continue to need Canadian wood to meet local demand. With the Softwood Lumber Agreement now expired, the American lumber industry has once again filed unjustified allegations of unfair trade practices by Canadian producers. In April, we will learn whether or not the US Commerce Department will set any form of counter-vailing duty on B.C. lumber.

If the pattern of previous softwood lumber disputes is followed, the United States will assess preliminary countervailing duties and months later punitive anti-dumping duties that will further disadvantage B.C. lumber producers, workers, and the communities that depend on a strong forest sector.



Today's BC Liberals have worked tirelessly with the federal government to ensure B.C.'s interests are at the heart of the Canadian negotiating strategy. Premier Christy Clark appointed Canada's former Minister of International Trade, David Emerson, as B.C.'s softwood envoy in the United States to ensure policy makers understand the impact American duties would have on the trading relationship between our two countries, and the U.S. consumer, who will be forced to pay higher prices for wood products.

Today's BC Liberals believe in free trade and recognize that the United States remains our most important trading partner. But we also believe that our producers need to be treated fairly by the United States in order to compete on a level playing field.

As we work with other provinces and the federal government to support British Columbian forest workers, communities and companies, we will strive for a managed agreement. But while we do, we are also looking at all options available to us to defend our interests.

BC NDP and BC Green Record – Destructive impact on forestry:

- John Horgan doesn't have a plan for forestry – they want to turn back the clock to a day when:
 - The **BC NDP** ordered the forest industry to create 21,000 new jobs over five years or lose timber-cutting rights. Instead, over 12,000 jobs were lost.
 - The **BC NDP** bailed out Skeena Cellulose, costing taxpayers \$425 million.
 - BC Coastal Forest Industry became one of the highest cost producer of timber in the world.
 - The **BC NDP's** Forest Renewal BC spent its first \$1.2 billion “without a strategic plan.”
 - The **BC NDP** failed to balance sustainability and the needs of the forestry industry, resulting in the Clayoquot Sound protests known as the “War in the Woods.”
- **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership which the forest industry has called a historic opportunity. Andrew Weaver even spoke and voted against the motion in support of the deal by Today's BC Liberal.

BC NDP policy and taxation regimes made BC's forest industry “smaller and less competitive while the industry in the rest of Canada expanded.” (Source: Pricewaterhouse Coopers report “The B.C. Forest Industry: Unrealized Potential, January 2000, p.5)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ A 2,000% increase in B.C. softwood lumber exports to China since 2003.
- ✓ Provided \$150 million to the Forest Enhancement Society for forest rehabilitation and tree planting to rehabilitate 300,000 hectares over five years.
- ✓ Invested an additional \$85 million in the new Forest Enhancement Society of BC to reduce wildfire risk, improve rural community safety and restore ecosystem health and wildlife habitat.
- ✓ Appointed former Canadian Minister of International Trade, David Emerson, as B.C.'s Special Envoy to the United States working on the softwood lumber dispute.
- ✓ Created FII India, and in January, sent the largest shipment of lumber ever to India to be used in the first major commercial wood demonstration project to showcase B.C. forest products.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Stand up for B.C. forestry communities, workers and companies as Canada continues to negotiate a new Softwood Lumber Agreement with the United States.
- » Work with the federal government to support workers, communities, and forest

companies as they fight the impacts of the unfair countervailing and anti-dumping duties.

- » Continue annual trade missions to Asia to expand markets.
- » Provide \$9 million to support the implementation of the Forest Carbon Initiative.
- » Commit an additional \$5 million annually to grow additional markets in China and India through Forest Innovation Investment, starting in 2018.
- » Promote more new tall wood building construction, including pushing other jurisdictions to allow them in their building codes.
- » Diversify our product range by supporting non-traditional uses of wood and wood-fibre through the Wood First program.
- » Increase wood fibre utilization in B.C.'s interior by one million cubic metres by the end of 2018, supporting 500 jobs.
- » Enhance the health and resilience of forests by increasing the number of seedlings planted under the Forests for Tomorrow Program to \$28 million per year by 2020.

"We are pleased to see the PST on electricity will be phased out over the next two years... This tax relief is critically important for forest-dependent communities in B.C."

Susan Yurkovich (CEO, Council of Forest Industries, Business in Vancouver, February 21, 2017)

Powering B.C.'s economy – mining

British Columbia is a global leader in sustainable mining. Tens of thousands of British Columbians rely on jobs in the mining sector. For example, two new mines are under construction in the province, the Brucejack gold-silver mine and the Silvertip silver-lead-zinc mine, that will employ more than 1,000 people in rural communities during construction and close to 500 when operational. These are family supporting jobs that are critical to the success of British Columbia.



BC NDP and BC Green Record – New lows for mining

During the **BC NDP's** time in power:

- Two mines closed for every one that opened. (Vancouver Sun, May 11, 2000)
- Mineral exploration and development hit an all-time low. (Association for Mineral Exploration BC)
- Non-metallurgical minerals mining and quarrying decreased by almost 20% between 1997 and 2001
- Lost an estimated \$750 million in exploration spending from 1992 to 2001 – enough to find eight new mines that could create more than 7,000 new jobs. (Mining Association of BC)
- B.C. had fallen to last in the Fraser Institute survey of mining executives. They ranked B.C.'s mining laws as the most antagonistic of any jurisdiction in the world. (Source: Vancouver Sun, 18 Dec 2001)

Both the **BC NDP's John Horgan** and the **BC Greens' Andrew Weaver** oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership – another way they'd hurt BC's mining industry and the thousands of jobs dependent on it.

"Mining industry fuming at NDP" (The Province, October 8, 1992)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Five new mines in operation since 2011, with eight expansions to existing major mines approved.
- ✓ Protected mining jobs in rural communities with a five-year electricity power rate deferral program for mines during a period of low commodity prices.
- ✓ Extended the New Mine Allowance Tax Credit to 2020.
- ✓ Provided \$25 million to Geoscience BC.
- ✓ Addressed 20 of the 26 recommendations from the Independent Expert Panel and the Chief Inspector of Mines reports on Mount Polley.

"The reduction of the small business corporate income tax rate to 2 per cent will be welcome news to smaller firms offering services to the mining industry."

Darold Thorp (Chair, Mining Suppliers Association of British Columbia, News Release, February 21, 2017)

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Phase out PST on electricity for mines.
- » Maintain B.C.'s world leadership in mine health and safety practices.
- » Target eight new mines permitted, under construction, or in operation by 2022.
- » Ensure nine upgrades and expansions to currently operating mines are permitted by 2020.
- » Invest \$18 million for mine permitting and oversight.
- » Implement the expanded Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program for 2017/18 to enhance job creation.

"Mining Suppliers Association of British Columbia welcomes the government's commitment to phase out the PST on electricity."

Mining Suppliers Association of British Columbia (News Release, February 21, 2017)

- » Work with New Gold mining to ensure the Ootsa Forest Service Road and other investments necessary to facilitate the Blackwater Mine near Quesnel are ready if the mine is successful in its provincial permitting processes.
- » Continue to address the recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General on Mount Polley.

Destination, British Columbia – tourism



There is nowhere else on earth that can match the majesty of our natural wonders, the vibrancy of our cultures, and the discovery visitors can make in our urban and rural communities. Many families and communities around British Columbia rely on tourism related businesses to build their future. More visitors mean more jobs and higher revenues – that’s why our plan is designed to help bring more tourists to British Columbia, from Canada and around the world.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ B.C. created 3,000 new tourism jobs just last year, with 2% growth per year expected moving forward.
- ✓ Over 127,000 people now work in tourism related businesses.
- ✓ British Columbia saw a 12.3% increase in visitors last year—with double-digit overnight visitor growth from the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom, China, India, Korea and Mexico
- ✓ Outperforming the rest of Canada with overnight visitors reaching 5.5 million in 2016, up 12.3% from 2015.
- ✓ Tourism contributed \$7.4 billion to the province’s GDP in 2015, up 5.6% since 2014.
- ✓ B.C. is home to over 300 Aboriginal tourism businesses.
- ✓ Liquor licenses are now available for tourism events and new opportunities exist for wine, craft beer, cider and spirits tours.
- ✓ Skytracks World Airport Awards named YVR the best airport in North America seven years in a row.
- ✓ Aboriginal tourism grew from \$20 million in 2006 to \$45 million in 2013.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Grow tourism revenues by 5% per year over the next two years.
- » Provide stable and consistent funding for Destination BC.

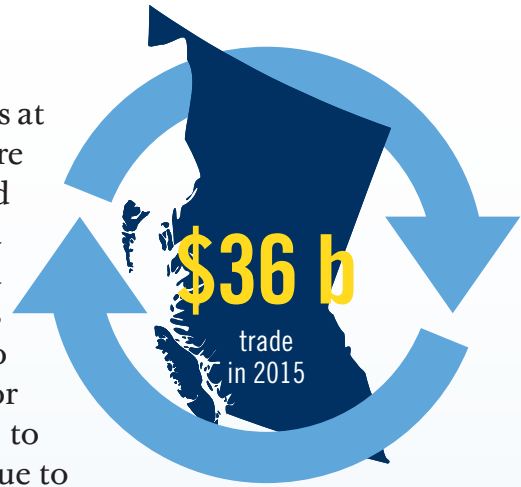


Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

- » Market British Columbia internationally as a prime tourist location.
- » Increase the profile and marketing of adventure tourism opportunities like heli-skiing.
- » Work with First Nations to double the number of Aboriginal tourism businesses by 2021.
- » Improve access for residents to our rugged off-road spaces and B.C.'s back country.
- » Invest in targeted advertising campaigns and new apps to promote British Columbia's craft breweries, wineries, cideries, and distilleries.
- » Work with YVR to increase the number of international flights and carriers with a target of 25 million passengers by 2020, supporting up to 7000 jobs.
- » Extend the Resource Municipality Initiative.
- » Work with the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority to redevelop Ogden Point, and secure a minimum of two cruise ships using Victoria as their home port by 2021.
- » Contribute \$500,000 to Tourism Vancouver Island's Hiking Tourism Master Plan for Vancouver Island and the coast region.

Increasing trade – boosting B.C. exports

The purpose of international trade is to grow jobs at home. Many B.C. businesses, large and small, are growing thanks to increasing trade ties around the world. Under our plan, British Columbia has significantly increased exports to Asia, and opened new, important markets in the world's fastest growing region. Increasing trade leads to growth here at home, and that means new jobs for British Columbians in industries from mining, to clean energy, to tech. It is critical that we continue to support B.C. businesses access new markets.



BC NDP and BC Green Record – Bad for trade

- During the **BC NDP's** time in government:
 - **B.C. experienced the weakest export growth of any province from 1992-1999.** (Statistics Canada)
 - **The NDP were opposed to NAFTA** (Vancouver Sun – October 14, 1993)
- The **BC NDP** are opposed to free trade: “When we talk about free trade, it’s not the people who benefit. It’s the corporations. It’s not about communities. It’s about corporations.” – BC NDP MLA Michelle Mungall, (Nelson Daily News, Apr 27/09)
- “Reject NAFTA as it is now drafted and don’t pass it at all unless radical changes are made.” – BC NDP MLA Judy Darcy (then President of CUPE), (Canadian Press, November 18, 1993)
- Both the **BC NDP** and **BC Greens** opposed the TPP.
- **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** are so out of touch with B.C.’s economy that their proposed agriculture platform made no mention at all of trade. Despite the fact that B.C. exported \$3.8 billion in agrifood exports in 2016 alone. Coupled with Andrew Weaver’s opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership, it is clear that the BC Greens’ opposition to trade would be bad for B.C.’s economy.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Exports from British Columbia are up 10% since 2011, with B.C. having the most diversified export market in Canada.
- ✓ Increased market diversity with nearly 40% of British Columbia’s exports going to Asia.
- ✓ Launched the HQ Vancouver project with federal government and BC Business Council that has delivered 12 new North American head offices for Asian and American companies.
- ✓ Opened new trade offices in the Philippines and Indonesia in the past two years.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Protect B.C. jobs by strongly supporting NAFTA as the federal government re-negotiates with the United States.
- » Support the federal government in pursuit of other international trade agreements that benefit B.C. workers and exporters.
- » Increase the number of national and international companies locating in British Columbia by 75 by 2020.
- » Expand the Export Navigator Program to help small and medium-sized business enterprises enter new markets.
- » Establish a permanent office in Washington D.C. to promote and protect B.C. trade interests.



Progress on the opportunity - natural gas and LNG

British Columbia has an abundant supply of natural gas – a clean energy that independent experts expect global demand to increase by almost 50% by 2040. The sector contributed \$7.3 billion to the province's economy in 2015. In fact, an estimated \$20 billion has already been invested to date.

Our proximity to Asian markets makes LNG a major opportunity that is already paying off. Our province has a supply that can sustain local and international markets for over 150 years.

“We’re getting to yes – on LNG, on creating jobs, on building a strong economy that benefits all British Columbians.”

Premier Christy Clark (Facebook, November 04, 2016)

Our LNG strategy is designed to provide the cleanest LNG possible for use around the world. And it's working. To date, B.C. has one LNG plant in operation, one ready for construction, and 18 projects with LNG export permits ready to go when market conditions allow for these multi-billion dollar investments to be made.

BC NDP and the BC Greens – The Parties of No:

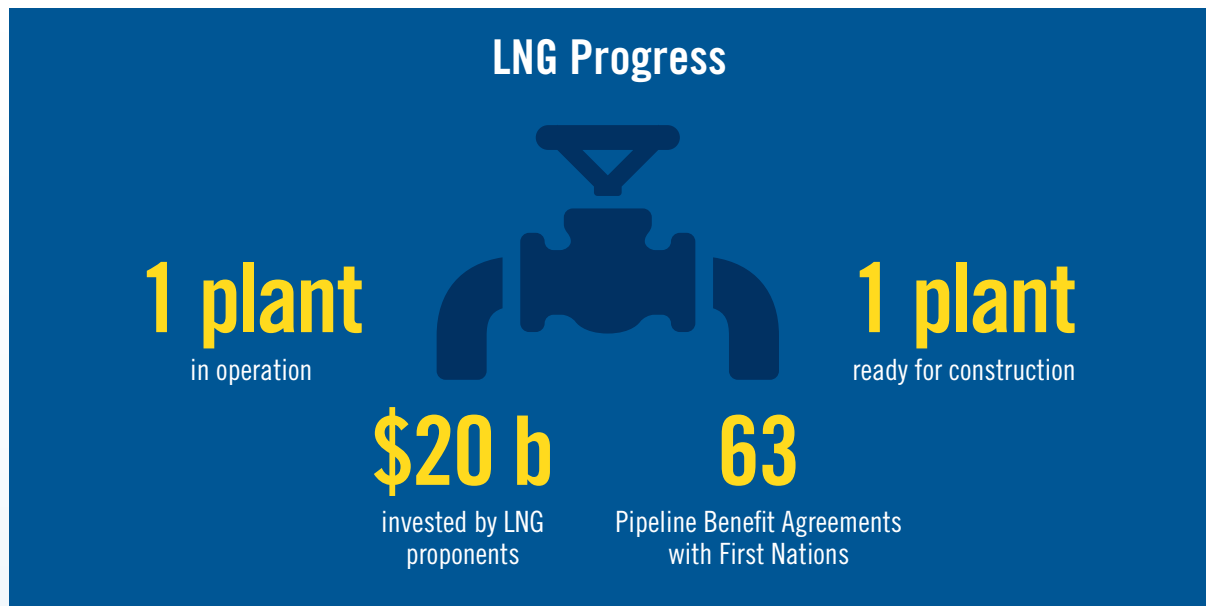
- BC NDP Leader John Horgan says the LNG industry is “going nowhere” (CHEK News, December 30, 2015)
- BC NDP MLA Jennifer Rice called the PNW LNG agreement “a bad deal for my community” (Hansard, July 13, 2015)
- BC NDP MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert called the agreement “bad for BC” (Facebook, July 13, 2015)
- The BC NDP and **BC Greens'** policies would shut down B.C.'s LNG industry. Their climate plans would kill thousands of jobs in LNG, when one LNG plant of the size being proposed by Pacific NorthWest LNG would reduce global emissions by 60 megatonnes, **almost the entire yearly emissions of B.C. today.**

“I wouldn't rule it out if the evidence is we need to do that [a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing].” (John Horgan, The Province, Oct. 2012)

“I think that we need to stop fracking.” (George Heyman, BC NDP MLA for Vancouver-Fairview, Youtube, Oct 2012)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ One LNG plant in operation:
 - FortisBC's Tilbury LNG in Delta is undergoing a \$400 million expansion to increase LNG supply for the transportation sector, industrial users and remote communities.
- ✓ One LNG plant ready for construction:
 - Woodfibre LNG will create 650 jobs during construction and 100 operational jobs over the lifespan of a \$1.6-billion project near Squamish. The first final investment decision taken on an LNG project in British Columbia.
- ✓ 18 projects with LNG export permits, including one ready for a final investment decision:
 - Secured the first Project Development Agreement between the Province and Pacific NorthWest LNG, and worked with the federal government and Pacific NorthWest LNG to ensure environmental approval for the Petronas project.
- ✓ Signed 63 natural gas Pipeline Benefit Agreements with First Nations – or approximately 90% of the 32 First Nations along LNG pipeline routes.
- ✓ Altagas Ltd. will create up to 250 construction jobs and 50 permanent positions in the Prince Rupert area with their \$475 million Ridley Island Propane Export Terminal.
- ✓ BC Ferries has taken possession of the first of three natural gas ferries and has announced that the Spirit class vessels will be able to run on natural gas or diesel fuel when their major refits are completed.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Work with project proponents and upstream gas producers to ensure that additional LNG developments are globally competitive for the next wave of LNG investment.
- » Ensure that clean, British Columbia natural gas expands as a transportation fuel in the province by working with industry to re-establish natural gas fueling stations for heavy truck and fleet use in the province.
- » Work towards getting three LNG facilities moving to construction by 2020.
- » Protect the ability of homeowners and businesses to use natural gas as an energy source across the province.
- » Promote electrification in the LNG sector to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Clean energy and climate action

Clean energy

British Columbia is a recognized world leader in the fight against climate change. We were the first jurisdiction in North America to introduce a broad-based, revenue-neutral carbon tax, and the first to have a carbon-neutral public sector. The core of our plan is to reduce emissions while growing the economy.

One of British Columbia's greatest assets is our access to clean, renewable electricity capable of powering B.C.'s economic growth. British Columbians are rightfully proud of important infrastructure like the WAC Bennett dam. That's why BC Hydro is investing more than \$2 billion per year over the next 10 years to expand, upgrade, and maintain our electricity infrastructure. The plan will contribute \$13 billion to the provincial economy, and provide 100,000 person years of employment.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Closed BC Hydro's Burrard Thermal Generating station
- ✓ Kept rates affordable for families with a 10 year BC Hydro rate plan which caps rate increases each year.
- ✓ BC Hydro invested \$6.5 billion in 560 capital projects over the last five years.
- ✓ B.C. leads the country in clean energy with BC Hydro's system producing 98% clean energy.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » BC Hydro's 10-year rate plan submitted to the BCUC caps rates at 2.6% over the five years.
- » Phase out BC Hydro's payment to government by 2022, starting in 2017.
- » Restore the electricity intertie between B.C. and Alberta by partnering with the federal government.
- » Complete the new turbine installation at the Revelstoke Generating Station.
- » Encourage the use of biomass as a fuel for energy generation.

Clean Energy Producers

Clean independent energy producers have invested billions of dollars across our province providing additional support to BC Hydro in our goal to provide 100% clean energy to users across the province. They now create 25% of BC Hydro's total energy production.

As the initial power contracts come up for renewal, Today's BC Liberals want to make sure that these producers continue to provide power to B.C. and work with them as we re-develop our southern electrical intertie with Alberta.

British Columbia will continue to need to find additional sources of clean energy, to power our growing province, even when Site C is up and running.

Jobs and generations of clean power – Site C

The construction of the Site C dam is the single largest infrastructure project undertaken in our province. The eight years of construction will create tens of thousands of jobs and generate clean, affordable and reliable power for the next 100 years.



As of January 2017, there were 2,124 people working on Site C, of which 81% were British Columbians. As part of BC Hydro's commitment to Aboriginal employment, nearly 200 Aboriginal people are working on Site C.

BC Hydro has signed community benefit agreements with Hudson's Hope, Taylor, Fort St. John and Chetwynd as well as impact benefit agreements with the McLeod Lake Indian Band, Dene Tha' First Nation and the Sauteau First Nation to provide resources and opportunities to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in northeastern B.C.

The Site C dam project is expected to contribute:

- A century-long supply of clean, affordable and reliable power enough to power 450,000 B.C. homes
- Tens of thousands of construction jobs in the northeast and across the province supplying goods and services to Site C
- \$3.2 billion to our province's economy
- \$40 million regional government tax revenue
- \$2.4 million annually to the Peace River Regional District in a regional legacy benefits agreement
- \$35 million in annual water rental payments to the province

The BC NDP and leader John Horgan are trying to be all things to all people, including on the Site C project:

- **"I've had a few positions on this show on Site C."**
John Horgan (Voice of BC, June 9, 2011)
- **"I've taken many positions on Site C."**
John Horgan (Voice of BC, June 7, 2012)
- **"And I get criticized for having multiple positions on this."** John Horgan (May 8, 2014)]

Andrew Weaver has said in no uncertain terms that he "would stop Site C"

(Twitter, November 21, 2016)

NDP continue political twister with Site C dam (The Province, May 22, 2011)

Horgan Looking for Wiggle room (Prince George Citizen, December 15, 2016)]

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Approximately 275 B.C. businesses have participated in Site C construction so far.
- ✓ More than \$30 million in goods and services have been purchased from Peace River Regional District businesses, as of October 2016.
- ✓ In January 2017 alone:
 - 195 Aboriginal peoples working for construction and non-construction contractors
 - 677 workers from the Peace River area
 - 42 apprentices employed

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Complete the Site C dam, creating clean, green energy for the next 100 years



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

Made in BC Climate Plan

Our clean energy is a vital part of British Columbia's global leadership in climate policy. We were the first jurisdiction in North America to put a price on carbon, through a transparent and revenue-neutral carbon tax.

"BC Premier Clark ended up signing because Feds agreed to protections for BC, specifically to make sure other provinces catch up to BC."

News1130 (December 9, 2016)

Last August, we released our Climate Leadership Plan that builds on the work started in 2008 and charts a course to hitting our target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of the province's 2007 emissions by 2050.

Our plan was built on solid principles: carbon tax revenue neutrality, affordability for British Columbians, and competitiveness with other jurisdictions to ensure our citizens and employers are not unfairly treated as we grow our economy.

In December, British Columbia signed onto the Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change and agreed to do our part to achieve the Canadian commitment on greenhouse gas emissions.

The federal government agreed to help assist the province with funding to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and store carbon. From converting energy sources in our natural gas fields from diesel to clean electricity, to helping fund the refurbishment of electricity transmission lines between Alberta and B.C. to help Alberta transition from coal fired power to clean electricity, British Columbia has a plan to help fight global climate change.

BC NDP and BC Green Record – More money out of your pocket:

- The **BC NDP** are proposing to make life more expensive for British Columbia families by raising the carbon tax to \$50/tonne, while the BC Greens would more than double it to \$70/tonne. (BC NDP Announcement, February 2, 2017, BC Greens Announcement, March 30, 2017)
- The **BC NDP** has previously criticized the very rebate cheques they are now promising British Columbians.
- They plan to eliminate carbon tax revenue neutrality and use this cash grab to pay for their pet projects.
- **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** are promising to hike B.C.'s carbon tax so it is higher than in the rest of Canada. (Andrew Weaver, Voice of BC, March 23, 2017)
- Former **BC NDP** leader Carole James on carbon tax rebates: "Now I know it's become controversial to say this but, really, there's no better way to describe it: it's like putting lipstick on a pig." (The Daily Bulletin – September 26, 2008)
- **BC Greens leader Andrew Weaver** wants to "increase the carbon levy," ahead of other provinces, meaning British Columbians pay more while jobs and businesses move into other provinces, and net emissions for Canada don't actually decrease – Press release (December 9, 2016)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ First jurisdiction in North America to put a price on carbon through a comprehensive revenue-neutral carbon tax.
- ✓ Developed a new Made in BC Climate Leadership Plan that builds on the work started in 2008 – with 21 new strategic actions in areas like:
 - Reducing upstream methane emissions
 - Making B.C.'s electricity 100% renewable or clean
 - Expanding the Clean Energy Vehicle program and new transit options
 - Setting a target for buildings to be net-zero ready by 2032
 - Targeting sequestration opportunities in our forests, and emission reductions in our natural gas production and processing
 - Reducing emissions by up to 25 mega tonnes and creating 66,000 new jobs
- ✓ B.C. is home to over 200 clean technology companies, dedicated to helping the world transition to a cleaner, sustainable economy.
- ✓ Leading the country in clean energy vehicles per capita.
- ✓ Provided incentives to British Columbians to encourage the purchase of non-luxury electric vehicles.
- ✓ Strengthened our Low Carbon Fuel Standard, to further reduce tailpipe emissions.
- ✓ Invested in public transit and rapid transit across the province, taking cars off the road and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

“Climate deal inked after BC wins concessions”

(iPolitics, December 9, 2016)

“Trudeau reaches deal on national climate plan after making concessions to BC”

(Globe and Mail, December 9, 2016)

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Ensure our principles of affordability, competitiveness, and revenue neutrality are confirmed and respected as we implement the Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change.
- » Maintain the carbon tax freeze until 2021, while other Canadian provinces catch up to our \$30/tonne carbon tax.
- » Ensure British Columbia decides the best way forward to meet our climate goals, working with Canada.
- » Maintain the Low Income Climate Action Tax Credit.
- » Ensure our energy-intensive, trade-exposed industries are fully protected from any potential increase in the carbon tax to maintain jobs and competitiveness for exporters.
- » Hit our climate change target of reducing 2007 greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050.
- » Work with the federal government to finance upstream oil and gas electrification, reforestation, and flood mitigation programs.



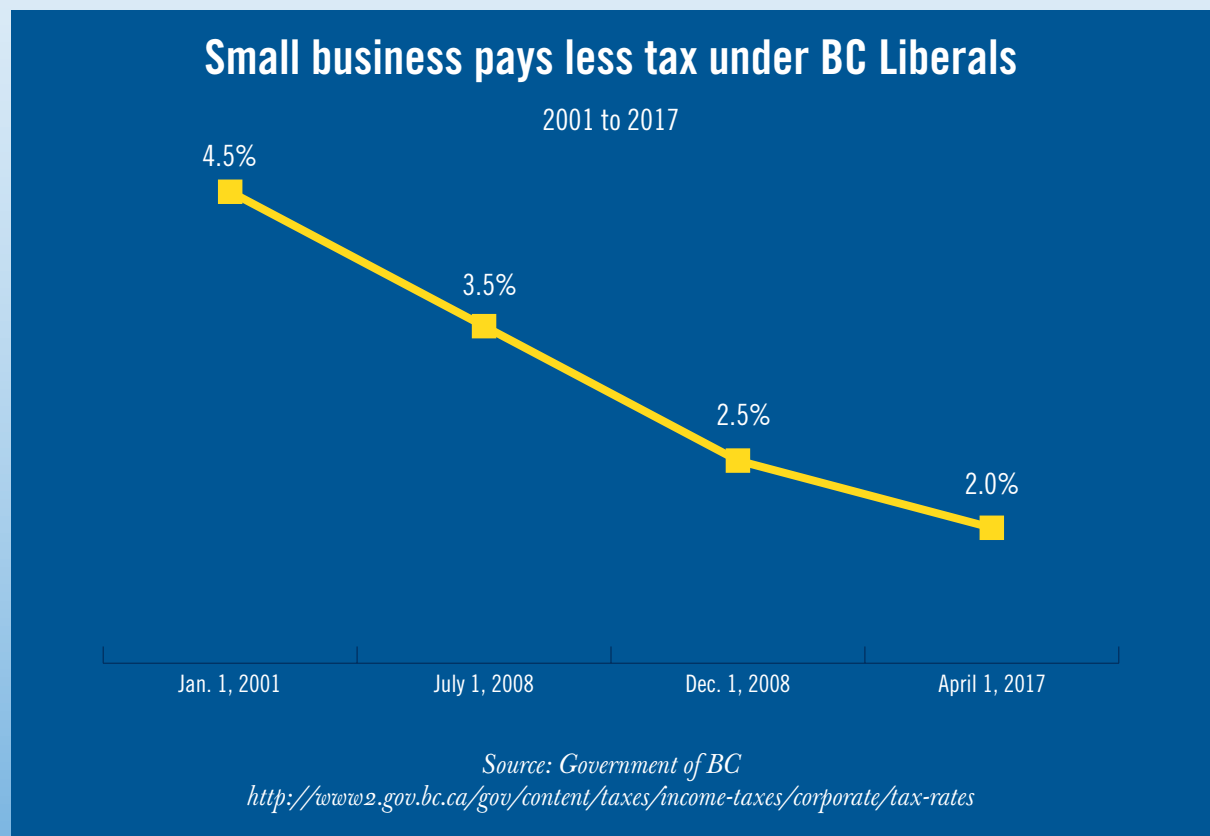
Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

Engine of B.C.'s economy - small businesses

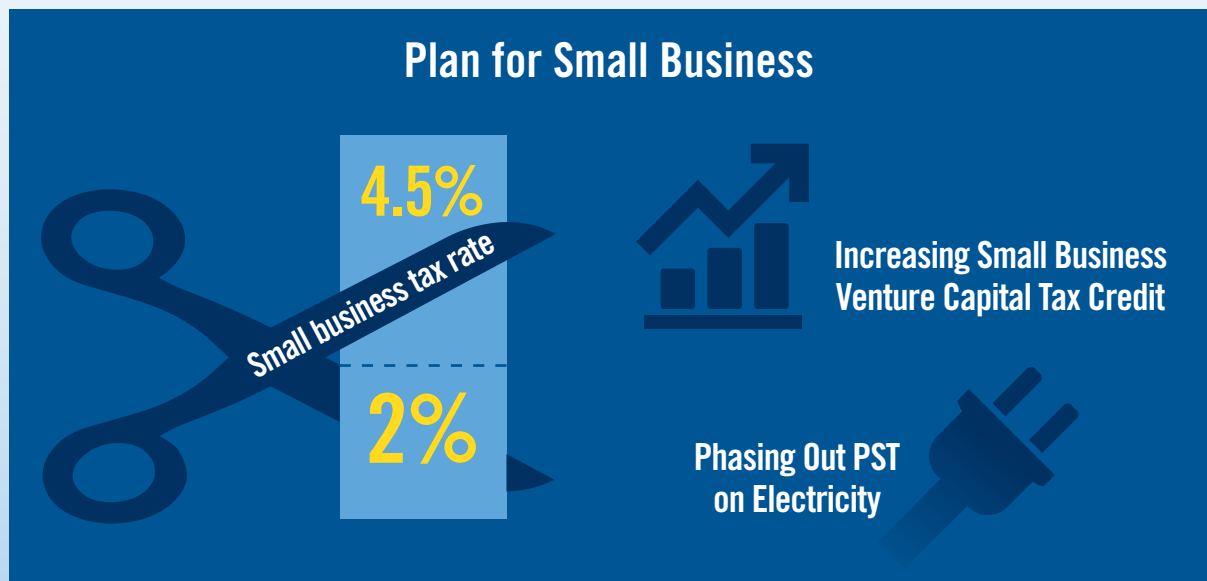
British Columbia is home to more small business owners per capita than anywhere else in Canada. Small business is the lifeblood of our economy, employing over one million people, generating nearly one-third of our GDP. They support healthy, vibrant communities, and put money in the pockets of families. We recognize the importance of small businesses – that's why our plan is focused on growing the economy and creating more jobs.



BC NDP and BC Green Record: Reckless minimum wage plan

- The **BC NDP's** plan to increase the minimum wage to \$15 will hurt British Columbia's economy and result in potential job losses for thousands of low-income British Columbians.
- In 2016, the total number of employees earning minimum wage was 93,800, and over half were young adults living with parents. (Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Skills Training)
- The percentage of employees earning minimum wage declined from 7.5% in 2012 to 4.8% in 2016. This is below the national average of those earning minimum wage (6.9%) (Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Skills Training)
- **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** are proposing to pay people regardless of whether they are even looking for work or not. Removing any incentive for people to contribute to B.C.'s economy while taking from those hard-working British Columbians that are is the wrong plan.

Our plan is focused on creating jobs and helping people upgrade their skills to make more money. A \$15 minimum wage leads to higher prices for consumers, fewer jobs for minimum wage employees, and less opportunity for small business owners.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ One of only two provinces to receive an 'A' grade from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) for our work to reduce red tape – six years in a row.
- ✓ Helped small businesses expand by increasing access to capital and encouraged investment through the \$35-million Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit.
- ✓ Improved access to services, streamlined processes, and simplified regulations by acting on over 100 ideas suggested by British Columbians through a public engagement on reducing red tape.
- ✓ Simplified process for businesses to sell goods and services to government by publishing a three-year outlook of contract opportunities on BCBid.ca.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Phase out the PST on electricity for small business.
- » Cut the small business tax rate to 2% – the second lowest rate in the country.
- » Increase the Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit from \$35 million to \$38.5 million.
- » Increase minimum wage in a stable, affordable, and predictable way.
- » Legislate WorkSafeBC to develop a policy that requires surplus funds be returned to employers.
- » Provide \$50,000 to BC Chamber of Commerce to support their #TradeTalks initiative, a provincial forum to help B.C. businesses grow by improving their export capacity.
- » Provide \$100,000 to the South Island Prosperity Project.

Getting to Yes – responsible resource development



Responsible resource development means welcoming investment and job creation in British Columbia. It means respecting environmental processes and not opposing new projects out of hand.

Our plan means resource development done the British Columbia way—with strict environmental review processes and strong monitoring once in operation. The Five Conditions are an articulation of the way we do business in British Columbia.

BC NDP and BC Green Record – Parties of No:

BC NDP opposed:

- The Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline project before it finished its environmental review.
- The George Massey Replacement project before it had completed its environmental review.
- Site C, a project that will create clean electricity for BC for the next 100 years, with MLA Lana Popham going so far as to say, ‘by my count, we are 9 votes away from killing Site C.’ (Poets for the Peace, Victoria, January 10, 2017)

With at least six different positions on this pipeline, we can’t trust the BC NDP to stand up for B.C.

1. Feb. 14, 2013: “I think it’s appropriate that Kinder Morgan be allowed.”
2. April 22, 2013: “I’m very pleased we’re saying no to Kinder Morgan.”
3. April 2, 2014: “Pipelines are a very important part of our future, no question.”
4. July 30, 2015: Kinder Morgan “cannot be allowed to go forward.”
5. Sept. 7, 2016: “I could be persuaded.”
6. Sept. 8, 2016: “Kinder Morgan cannot go forward.”

That’s not leadership. That’s the same old, **BC NDP**—No to jobs. No to investment. No to opportunity.

Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens are the only people who oppose job creation more than John Horgan and the **BC NDP**. In addition to saying no to every resource project, **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** are proposing to hit B.C.’s economy with a massive increase to the carbon tax. An increase that would put us at a serious economic disadvantage compared with our neighbours.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ B.C.’s Five Conditions were recognized as the required framework for how to do business in British Columbia. B.C., Canada, Alberta and pipeline proponents worked together for a better and more complete marine and land-based spills prevention and response program.
- ✓ The federal government has taken action on our second condition related to world-leading marine spill prevention, response, and recovery with a \$1.5-billion Oceans Protection Plan.
- ✓ Canada and the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation are investing hundreds of millions of dollars to put in place the people and equipment needed to prevent a spill from occurring and the equipment to clean up from any incident on our coast.
- ✓ Put in place a robust and timely environmental approval process that provides investors with the certainty of a time-bound answer, and British Columbians the certainty of environmental protections they demand of those who operate in our province.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Ensure Canada implements its promise for a world-leading marine spill response system, prior to any new operations on our coast.
- » Ensure that Kinder Morgan meets its requirements to significantly enhance marine safety.
- » Finalize the Kinder Morgan agreement worth up to \$1 billion in the BC Clean Communities Program – meaning between \$25 million and \$50 million annually for 20 years.
- » Support the development of refineries and pipelines that meet our environmental assessment requirements and provide benefits and jobs for British Columbians.

Taking advantage of B.C.'s Montney reserves

For decades, British Columbia has benefitted from extracting natural gas resources. Communities like Fort Nelson, Dawson Creek and Fort St. John have seen jobs, economic growth and infrastructure created as a result of the natural gas industry.

Technological advances have vastly increased the supply of natural gas in British Columbia. Hydraulic fracturing has allowed producers to unlock previously unknown reserves and ensure B.C. has a strong and stable supply of natural gas for the next hundred years. Nowhere is hydraulic fracturing more important than in the Montney Basin, and nowhere in the world is it done more safely.

The Montney HydroCarbon Basin straddles the border between Alberta and British Columbia, and is widely regarded as one of the most important natural gas reserves in North America.

In just the past four years, massive investments have been made in pipeline and gas processing infrastructure to ensure natural gas resources are able to be extracted, shipped, and processed.

- » A partnership between Encana and Verasen has committed \$2.5 billion in three gas processing plants.
- » Painted Pony and AltaGas have invested \$350 million in a gas processing plant

Montney reserves and value-added exports

The Montney oil and gas basin provide B.C. the opportunity to further diversify our natural resource revenue base. Instead of just natural gas production in the northeast, British Columbia has the opportunity to develop a world-class light oil resource as well—and refine it right here at home.

“We know the world is going to keep using refined energy products. Why don’t we produce those value-added exports right here, to the highest environmental standards, and lift the standard of living throughout our region for this generation and those still to come?”

Ellis Ross (January 11, 2017)

Whether pipelines to tidewater contain Alberta heavy oil or B.C. light oil, it is preferable to refine these products here in B.C. before exporting them to the energy consuming countries of Asia.

just north of Fort St. John. In January, AltaGas announced a \$475 million propane export facility in Prince Rupert.

- » TransCanada Pipelines has received federal and provincial approval for their \$1.7 billion North Montney Mainline Project creating approximately 2500 direct construction jobs
- » Spectra Energy invested nearly \$600 million to expand its natural gas collector pipelines

Not only are there massive world-class gas deposits in the Montney, there are huge opportunities to create a new light oil industry in the Peace. The Montney deposit in British Columbia contains gas, oil, condensate, and other liquids such as butane and propane, making it an incredibly attractive reserve.

This is what analysts are saying about the Montney:

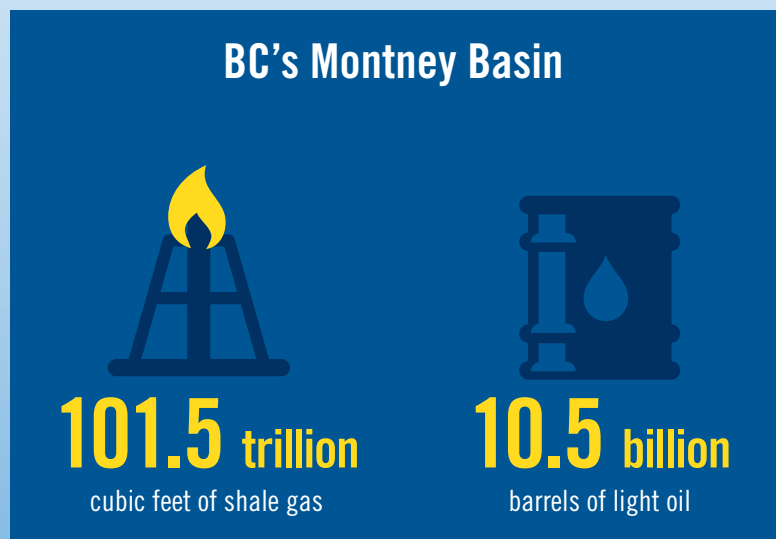
“The super liquids-rich window of the Montney in British Columbia represents an immense, largely untapped resource that we view as a major growth area in the basin for the foreseeable future.” BMO Capital Markets (Financial Post, December 18, 2016)

“What kind of resource is this? It’s 149 years at current rates. The Montney is the most logical energy source in Canada to fuel the transition to a low carbon modern future.” FirstEnergy Capital Corp. (Focus: Montney Supply Update, Sept. 19/2016)

“The Montney is regarded as one of the best tight gas plays in North America, but also offers significant crude oil and natural gas liquids accumulations, which Crew is also targeting for development.” Crew Energy (World Class Montney Resource Play, Crew Energy Website)

Companies like Arc Resources, Crew Energy, and Encana Inc. are currently drilling and evaluating the potential opportunity to extract this vast energy resource. ARC alone estimates that its holdings in B.C.’s Montney basin contain 101.5 trillion cubic feet of shale gas and 10.5 billion barrels of light oil.

Today’s BC Liberals want to responsibly develop the Montney for British Columbians. These deposits have the ability to generate jobs, revenues, and economic benefits for decades to come, provided the right regulatory, policy, and royalty frameworks to allow for environmentally sustainable development is in place.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Working with the Government of Alberta, oil and gas producers, and pipeline operators, secured affordable pipeline access for B.C. and Alberta gas to markets in Ontario and Quebec, protecting 8,000 jobs and eliminating the need for those provinces to buy natural gas from the United States.
- ✓ Continued to provide incentives for producers drilling deep wells for natural gas, to ensure our natural gas reserves are developed economically.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Unlock the oil resources contained in the Montney Basin through a new oil, deep-well royalty credit that is competitive with Alberta.
- » Place 50% of all oil revenues produced from the Montney Basin in the Prosperity Fund to benefit future generations.

Supporting rural communities - Rural Economic Plan



Rural communities in British Columbia have punched above their weight in building our province. Whether supporting public services or infrastructure investments, the contribution of rural B.C. makes the vital investments that all British Columbians need possible. And yet – no one is feeling the risk of the fragile global economy today more than rural B.C. With low commodity prices and the end of timber available for harvesting as a result of the mountain pine beetle epidemic, the past two years have been particularly hard on rural resource communities.

Now more than ever, it is critical to understand the challenges for rural communities, and have a government with a plan to help them face difficult, changing economic circumstances. Today's BC Liberals are the only party with a plan for rural British Columbia.

One component of our plan is providing communities with resources to diversify their economies through the Rural Dividend. Premier Christy Clark promised this during the 2013 election campaign and delivered a three-year program making \$25 million a year available to small communities. If re-elected, Today's BC Liberals will extend the Rural Dividend for a further three years, bringing the total commitment of the program to \$150 million.

The BC NDP and BC Greens oppose nearly every job creating resource project in British Columbia. Projects rural British Columbia rely on.

Rural B.C. was hit particularly hard under the **BC NDP**. Some of the rural industries that declined under the **BC NDP** between 1997 and 2001:

- Fishing, hunting and trapping (down 14.8%)
- Non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying (down 19.6%)
- Electric power engineering construction (down 28.8%)
- Other activities of the Construction industry (down 27.9%)
- Seafood product preparation and packaging (down 48.7%)

(Source: "Restoring British Columbia's Economic Heartland", BC Progress Board, 12 Dec 2002, p.4)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Delivered the Rural Dividend—a three year, \$25 million annual fund to assist rural communities to reinvigorate and diversify their local economies.
- ✓ Released the BC Rural Economic Development Strategy that contains 73 specific commitments to grow and diversify our rural economy, including:
 - Investing the Rural Dividend Fund to the greatest benefit for our regional communities
 - Making targeted trades and training investments in rural communities to develop talent that supports local industry needs and the development of a more diversified regional economy.
 - Encouraging continued innovation in our natural resource industries to maintain a competitive edge.
 - New funding for high-speed internet throughout the province.
- ✓ Successfully renewed the Peace River Fair Share Agreement which provides \$1.1 billion to Peace River communities over the next 20 years.
- ✓ The Island Coastal Economic Trust was established in 2006 and has invested over \$49 million in economic development projects across Vancouver Island.

"Without a resource sector in Canada we find people unemployed, looking for work, under employed, unable to look after the people that they love in their lives. The resource sector is vitally important today and it will be tomorrow. So what you need in this country are people who are going to fight for what you do, fight for your right to go out and work to create jobs, to extract resources, to sell them all over the world."

Premier Christy Clark (February 2017)



\$50 m

to continue BC Rural Dividend
program into 2021-22



\$40 m

to support 100% high-speed
internet connectivity by 2021

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Commit \$50 million to continue the BC Rural Dividend program into 2021-22.
- » Invest \$40 million to support our goal of 100% high-speed internet connectivity for all British Columbians before 2021.
- » Provide a \$3,000 tax credit for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue workers.
- » Commit \$8 million to continue the Provincial Livestock Fencing Program to 2021.
- » Monitor the Spruce Beetle outbreak in the Omineca forestry region and provide an additional \$4 million to identify and eliminate stands of wood impacted by the beetle.
- » Provide \$100,000 to fund a business case for the Alberni Aquatic Centre.

2 KEEP MORE OF YOUR HARD-EARNED MONEY



2. KEEP MORE OF YOUR HARD-EARNED MONEY

We have a plan to create more jobs, because a good job is the best way to look after the people you love. And to make sure you have every available resource to do just that, British Columbia needs to build on its record of having one of the lowest overall tax burdens in Canada. After all, Today's BC Liberals recognize individuals and families know how to spend their money best – not government.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ Delivering a billion-dollar tax cut with MSP reductions
- ✓ Freezing personal income taxes
- ✓ Maintaining our carbon tax freeze until 2021
- ✓ Creating a tax credit for BC Ferry users
- ✓ Capping tolls for commuters at \$500

Neither the BC NDP or the BC Greens are committed to balanced budgets. That leads to a vicious cycle – more spending, more borrowing, and higher taxes for you. Today's BC Liberals have made it a priority to control spending so that you keep more of your hard-earned money.

NDP governments always increase taxes

BC NDP

The Taxman cometh: NDP record reveals regular increases (Vancouver Sun, July 24, 1992)

Alberta NDP

Notley dismisses outrage over property tax hike (Calgary Herald, April 20, 2016)

Alberta faces new reality as NDP raises taxes (Globe and Mail, June 20, 2015)

Manitoba NDP

Selinger won't rule out further tax hikes (Winnipeg Sun, December 27, 2015)

Tax that broke our backs; Manitobans continue to vent over NDP's PST hike (Winnipeg Sun, July 5, 2013)

Nova Scotia NDP

NDP hikes HST: Nova Scotia will raise HST to 15 per cent – highest in Canada – as of July 1 (Cape Breton Post, April 7, 2010)

Ontario NDP

Rae makes 'em pay; TAXES HIT FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS HARD (Toronto Sun, July 6, 1993)

Ouch! Big Tax Bit; July 1 we get hit with record \$1.1 billion income tax hike (Toronto Sun, June 27, 1993)



Billion-dollar tax cut for the middle class

For middle-class families looking for help making life more affordable, Today's BC Liberals will provide a billion-dollar tax cut by making dramatic reductions to Medical Service Premiums (MSP).

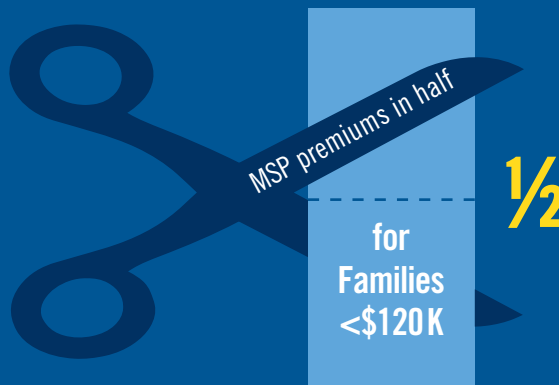
"This is my fifth budget lockup. I've never seen a significant tax cut like this before."

Jordan Bateman (BC Director of the Canadian Taxpayer Federation, CBC, February 21, 2017)

With two million British Columbians already exempt from MSP, two million more will see their premiums cut by 50% in January - the first step towards eliminating MSP entirely. That means a typical family of four earning less than \$120,000 will save \$900 per year in 2018.

Due to strong fiscal management, British Columbia can afford to reduce taxes while also making historic investments in hospitals and programs to ensure that we care for the people we love. Only Today's BC Liberals have a plan to get rid of MSP premiums.

Billion-dollar middle class tax cut



"MSP tax cut means \$900 a year in savings for families netting \$45,000 to \$120,000. \$75/month a real help to middle class."

Jordan Bateman (BC Director of the Canadian Taxpayer Federation, Twitter, February 21, 2017)

BC NDP and BC Greens = higher taxes:

- Neither the **BC NDP** or **BC Greens** would eliminate MSP – both are proposing to hide it in your income tax – leaving you with a higher tax bill, and less money in your pocket.
- John Horgan has specifically said he is targeting tax hikes to “those middle-class folks in the age of, say 35 to 54, they’re at their highest earning period” (John Horgan, Daily Xtra – January 24, 2017).
- The **BC NDP** never met a tax hike they didn’t like. **BC NDP** MLA Rob Fleming said it best: “[The Premier’s] big idea in the Throne Speech was a fresh round of tax cuts. We’re going to have to fight that.” (Feb. 19, 2017)
- The **BC NDP** wants to end the revenue neutrality of BC’s carbon tax: “Our plan will invest a portion of carbon tax revenues directly into reducing emissions and climate change solutions, like investing in transit, energy efficiency, clean technology, and initiatives that will reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.” (BC NDP Carbon Tax Plan Backgrounder, February 2, 2017)
- **The BC Greens** are promising to hike B.C.’s carbon tax, the highest in the country, doubling the carbon price at the pump. (BC Green Climate Plan)

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY’S BC LIBERALS WILL:

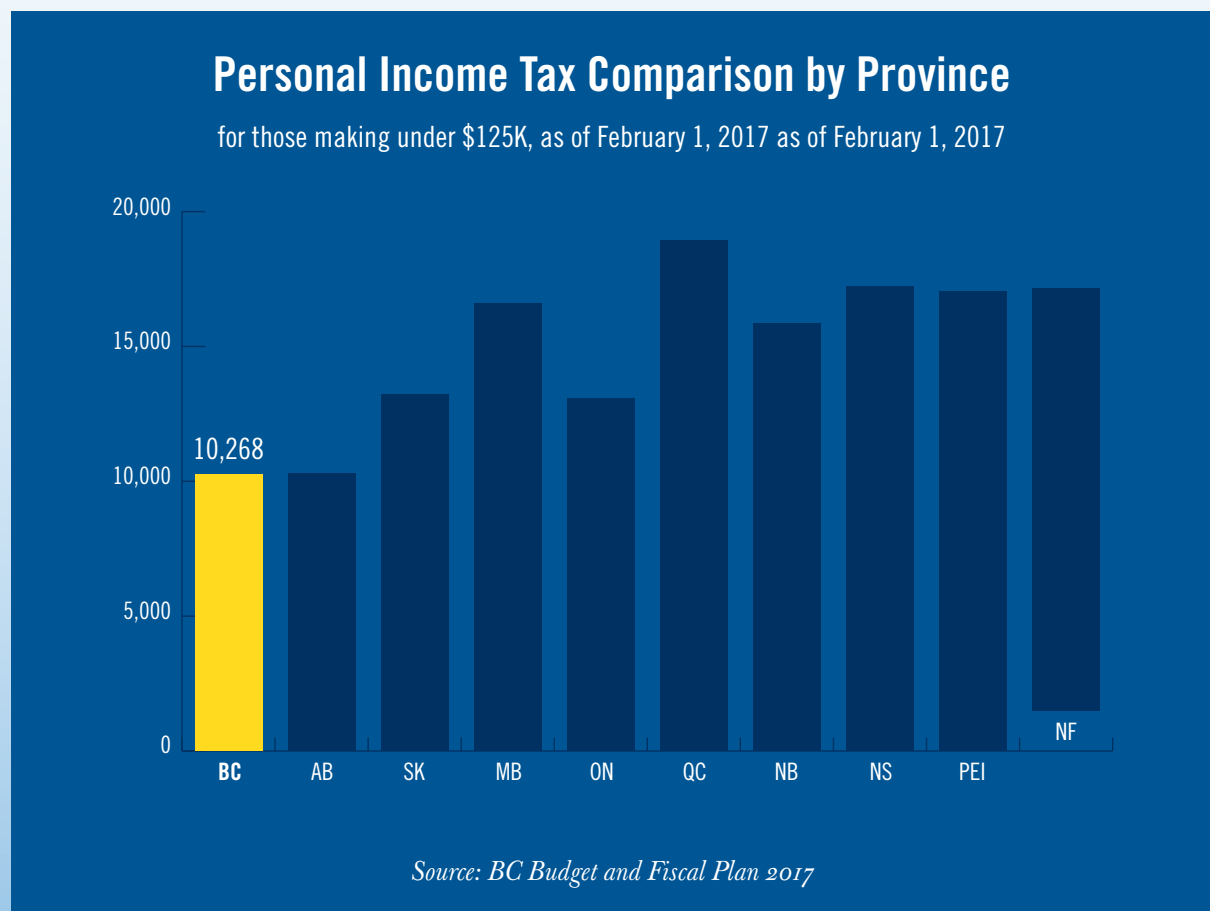
- » Provide a billion-dollar tax cut by phasing out MSP, starting with cutting premiums in half for families and individuals with family net income of up to \$120,000 per year.

Family affordability - more money for you, less for government

This election is about whether we continue to move forward with a plan to create jobs and keep taxes low, or backwards saying no to jobs and yes to higher taxes. While the BC NDP and BC Greens would hike your taxes to spend on government programs, Today's BC Liberals remain focused on helping you keep more of your money.

We believe that government should respect taxpayers and only collect the money needed to fund necessary services. You work hard for your money, and you know how to spend it best. That's why British Columbians continue to have one of the lowest overall tax burdens in Canada when all taxes are considered.

But we aren't stopping there.



BC NDP and BC Green Record – Higher taxes, lower take-home pay:

Under the BC NDP government:

- Take home pay dropped by 8.6% between 1990 and 1999. (Business Council of British Columbia)
- The tax burden for the average B.C. family increased by \$803 – over \$1,134 in today's dollars (Vancouver Sun, November 12, 1998)
- Highest personal income tax rates in Canada at the end of the **BC NDP's** decade in power.
- Introduced more than \$2 billion in annual tax increases, fees and licenses during their time in government.
- **Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens** have proposed to more than double the carbon tax and eliminate its revenue neutrality – a double hit to families. Families simply cannot afford the **BC Greens**.

“[The Premier’s] big idea in the Throne Speech was a fresh round of tax cuts. We’re going to have to fight that.”
(Rob Fleming, Feb. 19, 2017)

Taxes up; spending . . . er . . . up (Vancouver Sun; 18 Feb 1992)

Creed of higher taxes, more spending, more debt (Vancouver Sun, 31 Mar 1993)

The Taxman cometh: NDP record reveals regular increases (Vancouver Sun, 24 July 1992)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ The lowest provincial personal income taxes for those making up to \$125,000.
- ✓ Personal income taxes for most British Columbians have reduced by 37% from BC NDP levels:
 - An individual earning \$20,000 pays \$723 less per year
 - A senior couple earning \$40,000 pays \$708 less per year
 - An individual earning \$50,000 pays \$1,320 less per year
 - A family of four earning \$70,000 pays \$2,044 less per year
- ✓ Introduced the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit – up to \$660 a year per child under six, helping 180,000 families
- ✓ Introduced the BC Children’s Fitness Equipment Tax Credit – up to \$250 per year, in addition to \$500 Children’s Fitness & Arts Tax Credits.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY’S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Freeze all personal income taxes for the next four years.
- » Maintain our carbon tax freeze until 2021.
- » Introduce a \$500 annual cap for commuters who use tolled bridges.

- » By 2020, create a loyalty program to reduce costs for users in ferry dependent communities.
- » In the interim years, create a tax deduction to offset the cost of ferry use on taxable income for users in ferry dependent communities.
- » Implement a new tax credit for carsharing services.
- » Cut the small business tax rate to 2.0%—the second lowest in Canada.
- » Eliminate the PST on electricity for businesses large and small, just like for homes.
- » Introduce an Active Seniors Tax Credit to support and promote seniors leading active healthy lifestyles.
- » Help students and parents by:

- › Maintaining the B.C. Back-to-School Tax Credit, a \$250 per child non-refundable tax credit for parents of school age children to help with the cost of purchasing school supplies

- › Maintaining the Children's Fitness Tax Credit up to a maximum of \$500 per child and the Children's Fitness Equipment Tax Credit.

- › Maintaining the Children's Art Tax Credit up to a maximum of \$500 per child.

- › Lowering the interest rate on student loans to prime - saving people around \$45 million over the next 3 years.

- » Raise the threshold of the First Time Home Buyers' Program exemption to \$500,000, saving first-time home buyers up to \$8,000.

- » Maintain the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit for the 180,000 families with kids under the age of six.

- » Double the Home Renovation Tax Credit to \$20,000 to make home improvements to accommodate seniors or family members with disabilities.

- » Introduce a Respite Tax Credit of up to \$2,500 for people caring for seniors or family members with disabilities.

- » Provide a \$3,000 tax credit for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue workers.

- » Cap the 2017 ICBC rate increase at 4.9% while an independent review is undertaken to limit future rate increases and improve the future health of ICBC.

“We need to invest in services on one side but we also need to put more money in people's pockets because they can spend that money better than government can.”

Premier Christy Clark

(Darpan Magazine, March 20, 2017)



Spending within our means – our balanced budget promise

In 2013, Premier Christy Clark made it a priority to balance our province's budget. Instead of spending money government doesn't have, our Premier was clear – we aren't going to make future generations pay for the programs of today. Under the Premier's leadership, Today's BC Liberals have introduced five balanced budgets in a row.

That discipline kept B.C. in the black and protected our AAA credit rating. With Ontario's credit rating, British Columbia would pay an additional \$2.5 billion in interest payments to the banks – every year. That's enough to build five new, state-of-the-art hospitals a year.

Unsustainable and reckless spending programs like the ones being proposed by the BC NDP and BC Greens lead to massive deficits, ballooning operating debts, and more money going towards interest payments instead of programs people and families rely on.

"Delivering a balanced budget within a climate of modest economic growth and a mixed outlook for commodities sets B.C. apart and signals that the province is a stable place to invest and do business."

Greg D'Avignon (Business Council of BC, Canadian Press, February 21, 2017)

"We applaud #bcgov for delivering a 5th straight balanced budget. Nation-leading fiscal management."

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade (Twitter, February 21, 2017)

Balanced Provincial Budgets in Canada

as of 2016/2017



“It’s encouraging to see a fifth consecutive balanced budget, one of the only provinces in the country that can make that claim.”

(Richard Truscott, Vice-President BC & Alberta, Canadian Federation of Independent Business, News Release, February 21, 2017)

BC NDP and BC Greens – A record of reckless spending:

Under the BC NDP government:

- Debt-servicing costs increased by 60%.
- Nearly doubled B.C.’s debt in the 1990s.
- Left a \$3.8 billion structural deficit behind for the next government to clean up. (BC Fiscal Review Panel)
- Delivered 8 consecutive deficits, after being elected in 1991 on a promise that “If the money’s not there, we won’t spend it.”
- Balanced just two budgets while almost all of Canada was balancing their budgets and posting surpluses, between 1991-2001.
- Called a \$185 million deficit a “rounding error”. (Vancouver Sun, December 31, 1997)
- Blew budget targets for 9 out of 10 years.

Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens won’t commit to balancing the budget each and every year.

Provincial debt soars to all-time high: Bond rating agencies put B.C., others under review
(Vancouver Sun, 31 Mar 1993)

“Spending only what it can afford remains a foreign concept to the NDP.”
(Vancouver Sun, Mar 28/00)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Set aside \$500 million into the Prosperity Fund.
- ✓ Only province in Canada with the highest triple AAA credit rating – with Ontario’s credit rating, B.C. would pay an estimated \$2.5 billion in interest payments to the banks – every year.
- ✓ Only borrowed money to pay for infrastructure over the past four years.
- ✓ Controlled the cost of government by negotiating fair and affordable contracts with our public-sector employees.
- ✓ Introduced new Taxpayer Accountability Principles for public sector organizations that strengthen accountability, promote cost control, and ensure they operate in the best interest of taxpayers.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY’S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Commit to another four balanced budgets.
- » Protect B.C.’s AAA credit rating.
- » Control government spending by ensuring it is no greater than nominal GDP growth.
- » Eliminate our operating debt by 2021—the first time that has occurred since the mid-1970s.
- » Protect the Prosperity Fund for use by future generations—not the political needs of the BC NDP or BC Greens.
- » Negotiate long-term, affordable contracts with public sector unions.
- » Maintain legislated wage holdback for Ministers if the budget isn’t balanced.

“We are very encouraged to see that B.C.’s direct operating debt is forecast to be \$1.1 billion by the end of the current fiscal plan period, which marks a 90 per cent reduction since 2013-14. As Minister de Jong identified in his speech today, it is now within our Province’s reach to eliminate our operating debt entirely, for the first time in 45 years.”

*Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
(News Release, February 21, 2017)*

3 SMART, MODERN BRITISH COLUMBIA



3. SMART, MODERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia's strong economy is driving growth in communities around the province. Newcomers from around the globe and other provinces are arriving in British Columbia to build a new life for themselves and their families.

That growth does come with challenges, in particular for housing affordability. Today's BC Liberals firmly believe in the right of the middle class to be able to own their own home, and we have introduced a suite of programs to assist those trying to enter the market for the first time.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

And thanks to many B.C. and international tech companies, new innovations are being utilized every day to make peoples' lives easier, whether that's help getting around, or making a little extra money with your home. Today's BC Liberals believe we must be ready to embrace the sharing economy – from ridesharing services like Uber or Lyft, to homesharing services like AirBnB.

Throughout our platform, you will find a number of new, innovative ways that Today's BC Liberals will build a smart, modern British Columbia, including:

- » **Scope of practice** – expanding scope of practice to help people get the care they need
- » **Open textbooks** – more than 170 open textbooks already available online for free – saving over 34,000 students as much as \$3.9M so far.
- » **Online tribunals** – B.C.'s Civil Resolution Tribunal takes strata and small claims disputes out of courts making access to justice simpler, more affordable and more convenient.

- » **High-speed connectivity** – \$40 million to support our goal of 100% high-speed internet connectivity for all British Columbians before 2021.
- » **Coding in schools** – implemented coding modules for Grades 6 to 9

Labour peace and the Economic Stability Mandate

A core value of Today's BC Liberals is the need to control government spending and manage the growth of programs and services.

British Columbians only need to look at Alberta to see what can happen if government spending is allowed to get out of control. **With a population of about half a million less than B.C., Alberta government spending will be \$4.7 billion dollars more this year.**

Alberta has allowed the cost of government to get out of hand—

- » Spending per school aged child in Alberta is 22% higher than in B.C.
- » Per capital health spending is 17% higher in Alberta than B.C.

Our government spends less, and achieves better results.

Today's BC Liberals continue to secure long-lasting, fair, and affordable contracts with our public-sector employees. And with our \$300 million investment in classrooms across the province, we are confident that negotiations with the BCTF can lead to another long-term agreement without a strike or lockout affecting parents, students, and teachers.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Track record of reaching labour agreements without strikes or service disruption.
- ✓ Secured the longest labour agreement with teachers in B.C.'s history.
- ✓ Negotiated labour agreements that for the first time gave government employees a stake in economic growth.
- ✓ In each of the years these contracts have been in place, the economy has outperformed expectations and modest increases to employees were realized.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Negotiate fair, affordable, long-term contracts with our public-sector employees including teachers, nurses, and all public servants when contracts expire in 2019.



Ridesharing - embracing the sharing economy

The world is changing, and government needs to keep up. Whether by changing rules and regulations to embrace the sharing economy, or by helping people adopt the transportation options of the future, Today's BC Liberals are moving to take advantage of rapid global innovation and technological change.

The sharing economy is here. From home-sharing through traditional bed and breakfast operations to the world of AirBnB, people are opening up their homes and earning extra income. For many people, this extra money enables them to afford the home in which they live.



Ridesharing provides job opportunities for British Columbians and provides consumers with choice in how they travel. Companies like Lyft and Uber have become part of the transportation network across the world as they match drivers with riders in safe and secure vehicles. British Columbia has consulted extensively on ridesharing and Today's BC Liberals are committed to new legislation that will allow ridesharing companies to operate by the end of the year.

We know that this represents change for the traditional taxi model, especially for people who own taxi licenses. That's why we have committed to making smart, affordable investments in the taxi industry, and working with them to ensure a level playing field for insurance and other costs between ridesharing companies and the taxi industry.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Introduce legislation to enable ridesharing companies to operate by December 2017.
- » Implement a new tax credit for people who use car-sharing services like Evo, Car2Go, and Modo.
- » Continue to consult with the B.C. taxi industry, including owners and drivers, to ensure there is a level playing field between ridesharing and traditional taxi companies.
- » Work with the taxi industry to develop an app to modernize their service for customers.

BC NDP don't support ridesharing

"BC NDP leader John Horgan said he'd kill the plan if his party wins in May."

Vancouver Sun

B.C.'s booming wineries, craft breweries, cideries, and distilleries

Today's BC Liberals led a comprehensive consultation on liquor reform with British Columbians that garnered greater public engagement than ever before.

The Liquor Review made 73 recommendations to update and modernize antiquated laws and reduce red tape, increasing flexibility and opening opportunities for businesses to spur economic growth in the sector.

Most importantly, the action from this report has improved convenience and choice for consumers while at the same time strengthened accountability with respect to social responsibility for those holding liquor licenses.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Increased convenience and choice for consumers about where and how they can enjoy a drink: with their kids at a pub, in theatres and stadiums, at the spa or barber, or on the patio.
- ✓ Brought in new policies with respect to social responsibility including: every person serving an alcoholic product must be certified; social responsibility material must be displayed prominently and minimum price regulations.
- ✓ Continued to grow the wine industry by re-constituting the 18 VQA wine licenses and allowing B.C. wine to be sold on shelves in select grocery stores. There are now sixteen grocery stores that sell British Columbia wine off the shelf.
- ✓ Reduced red tape by loosening regulations allowing for greater tasting and on premise food and



beverage service at breweries, wineries and distilleries.

- ✓ Allowed manufacturers to sell wine, distilled products and craft beer at farmer's markets – today 130 liquor manufacturers sell at around 70 markets throughout the province
- ✓ Introduced 'happy hour' liquor pricing, allowing for greater sampling opportunities for B.C. producers.
- ✓ Worked with the BC Wine Institute to implement the Golden Mile wine appellation.
- ✓ Eased the burden for craft brewers and distilleries to help their cash flow.
- ✓ Streamlined the process for Special Occasion Licenses.
- ✓ Changed the small brewer tax policy to allow brewers to grow sustainably without seeing massive tax shocks as they grow their businesses.

Our Wine, Craft Beer, and Distillery Industries are Working



\$2.8 b

economic impact



25,000

people employed
with an additional
1,500 working in brewpubs



400%

growth in volume produced
from 2013 to 2015

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

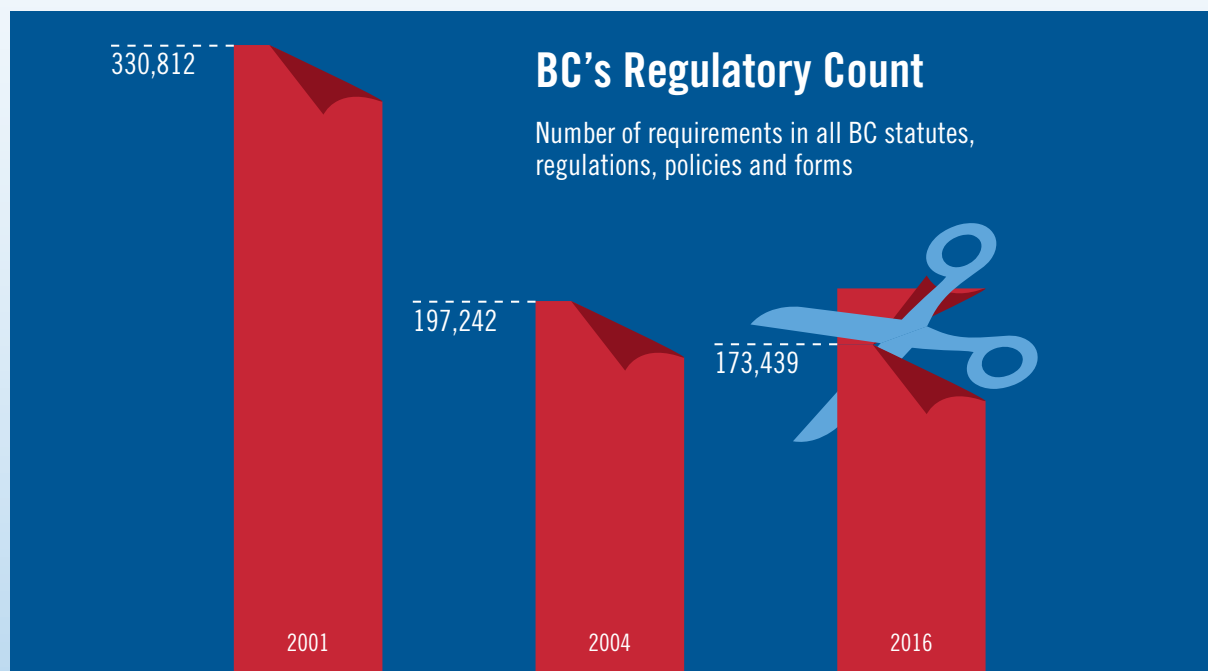
- » Stand up for the B.C. wine industry and protect jobs against the threat of international trade disputes.
- » Develop an international marketing strategy for B.C. wine, craft beer, cider, and distilled products.
- » Support a new BC Wine Centre of Excellence in Penticton.
- » Invest in targeted advertising campaigns and new apps to promote B.C. craft breweries, wineries, and distilleries.
- » Spur the development of a hops industry in B.C. with a \$1 million annual grant towards an incentive program for farmers, contributing to the development of a VQA-like program for made-in-B.C. craft beer.
- » Review the mark-up policy for craft distillers.
- » Streamline the process for entrepreneurs to get a brewery license.
- » Maintain a moratorium on the number of private liquor store licenses through 2022.

Red tape reduction

For British Columbians, red tape reduction means making it fast and easy to access services, freeing up time to focus on what's important – like family and friends. It's about making changes to ensure British Columbia is a smart, modern place to live and do business.

For businesses, reducing red tape means saving time and money that can be reinvested elsewhere, helping create jobs and growth. That's why we created the Mobile Business License program that benefits small businesses in 83 communities throughout the province – a collaboration between the provincial government and municipalities allowing businesses to operate in multiple municipalities using a single business license.

Today's BC Liberals are focused on continuing to remove unnecessary red tape for consumers and businesses.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Reduced the total number of regulatory requirements by over 47% – completing over 275 streamlining projects.
- ✓ Eliminated 157,000 regulations since the BC NDP was in government.
- ✓ One of only two provinces to receive an 'A' grade from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) for our work to reduce red tape – six years in a row.
- ✓ Received CFIB's Golden Scissors Award in 2017 for leadership in cutting red tape.
- ✓ Maintained net zero regulatory gain in each year since 2012.
- ✓ Added a small business lens to B.C.'s regulatory reform policy.
- ✓ Legislated Red Tape Reduction Day to ensure accountability across government.
- ✓ Modernized the Liquor Control and Licensing Act was introduced in spring 2015, cutting red tape across a number of areas.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Legislate our practice of net zero regulatory requirement where for any new regulation introduced an existing one is removed.
- » Monitor the Ontario government as it examines the issue of concert and sporting event ticket reselling to determine what approach may work to ensure consumers, not ticket scamming bots, are able to buy concert tickets.
- » Adopt new technology that improves services and enables people to more easily interact with their government.

Moving People and Goods

British Columbians rely on our transportation network every day – to get to work or school, to access services, and to stay connected to each other and the world. Along with getting us to where we need to go, transportation enhances quality of living, generates employment, and underpins job creation and economic development.

A growing economy relies on a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation network that meets the unique needs of communities across B.C., and that supports the movement of goods in and out of Canada's Pacific Gateway.

Our transportation network provides us with the opportunity to get out and explore our beautiful province. And it connects producers to export markets to the west, east, and south of British Columbia.

We've invested almost \$20 billion in critical transportation infrastructure across our province since the BC NDP was in power. However, there is more work to do which is why Budget 2017 provides \$3.2 billion in additional transportation infrastructure spending over the next three years.

But we can't do this alone. A strong transportation network requires strong partner-

New George Massey replacement bridge:

Today's BC Liberals are committed to fixing B.C.'s worst traffic bottleneck by replacing the George Massey Tunnel with a new bridge. The BC NDP and BC Greens oppose the project and if elected, would keep the seismically at-risk tunnel.

It's more important than ever to move forward now, with the Lower Mainland's population expected to grow by a million people over the next three decades. Benefits include:

- 9,000 direct jobs; 8,000 indirect jobs.
- Improved highway safety, HOV lanes, reduced GHG emissions from idling in long waits
- Save 80,000 rush-hour commuters up to 30 minutes a day.
- Facilitating the movement of \$25 billion in vital goods per year to the Asia Pacific Gateway
- Improved response times for first responders

"There are significant advantages of a bridge over a tunnel from an emergency response perspective."

George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project: Safety Benefits from an Emergency Response Perspective (Oct. 2016)

ships with the federal government, provincial governments, First Nations, local governments, the private sector and others.

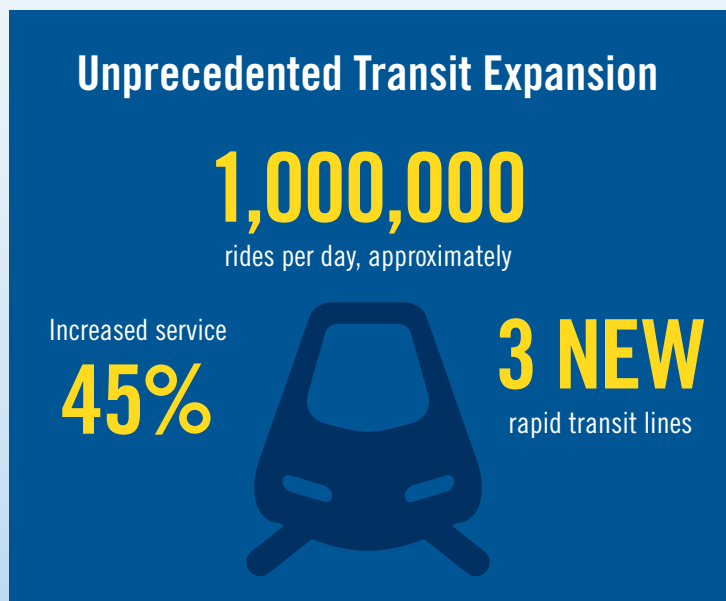
Together, we are building stronger communities, creating thousands of jobs, and supporting families through transportation investments.

The BC NDP have opposed major infrastructure investments including:

- Port Mann Bridge
- George Massey Tunnel Replacement
- Golden Ears Bridge
- Canada Line
- South Fraser Perimeter Road
- Sea to Sky Highway Improvement

Metro Vancouver and Translink

As we invest unprecedented dollars in Metro Vancouver transit, we have an opportunity to ensure we do so in the smartest way possible, for the 21st century and beyond. Our vision is to build communities connected by transit, with affordable housing, leaving a smaller environmental footprint. This will make sure Metro Vancouver grows in a way that limits congestion, cuts emissions, and gives you more time with your family.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Unprecedented expansion in transit in Metro Vancouver since the BC NDP was in power:
 - Transit service has increased by 45%.
 - Three rapid transit lines have opened – Millennium Line, Canada Line, Evergreen Line
 - Ridership has grown by 84 % since 2002, providing almost 233 million rides in 2013.
- ✓ Opened the Evergreen Line in December 2016, making SkyTrain the longest transit system in Canada and the longest fully automated transit system in the world
- ✓ Funded \$246 million towards Phase 1 of the 10-year Vision for Metro Vancouver Transportation:
 - 50 new SkyTrain cars for the Expo, Millennium and Canada Lines;
 - One new SeaBus;
 - Five new passenger cars and a locomotive for the West Coast Express;

- Upgraded stations and exchanges, including Lonsdale Quay Bus Exchange, Phibbs Exchange, Metrotown Bus Loop, Guildford Exchange, Newton Exchange, Burrard SkyTrain Station and Joyce-Collingwood SkyTrain Station.
 - Maintaining and expanding the Major Road Network; and
 - Improving cycling and pedestrian infrastructure and networks.
- ✓ Other recent investments include:
- TransLink Faregates (in service April 2016) – \$41 million
 - SkyTrain Improvements, including station upgrades (ongoing) – \$89 million
 - Scott Road Station (completed 2014) – \$4 million
 - Main Street – Science World Station (completed 2015) – \$14 million
 - New Westminster Station (completed 2016) – \$4.2 million
 - Joyce – Collingwood Station (ongoing) – \$11.5 million
 - Commercial – Broadway Station (ongoing) – \$18.8 million
 - Surrey Central Station (ongoing) – \$6.9 million
 - Metrotown Station (ongoing) – \$23.2 million
 - Broadway and Surrey Rapid Transit studies (2013)- \$5 million
 - Highway 99 and Highway 7 Rapid Bus Projects (2012) – \$62 million
 - Langley 202nd St. Park & Ride and transit exchange (2012) – \$49 million
 - Capilano Bridge replacement, expansion and transit improvements (2011) – \$22 million

Matching the federal government's \$2.2 billion for Metro Vancouver transit:

BROADWAY

New Broadway Line in Vancouver



SURREY LRT

Building the Surrey LRT Project

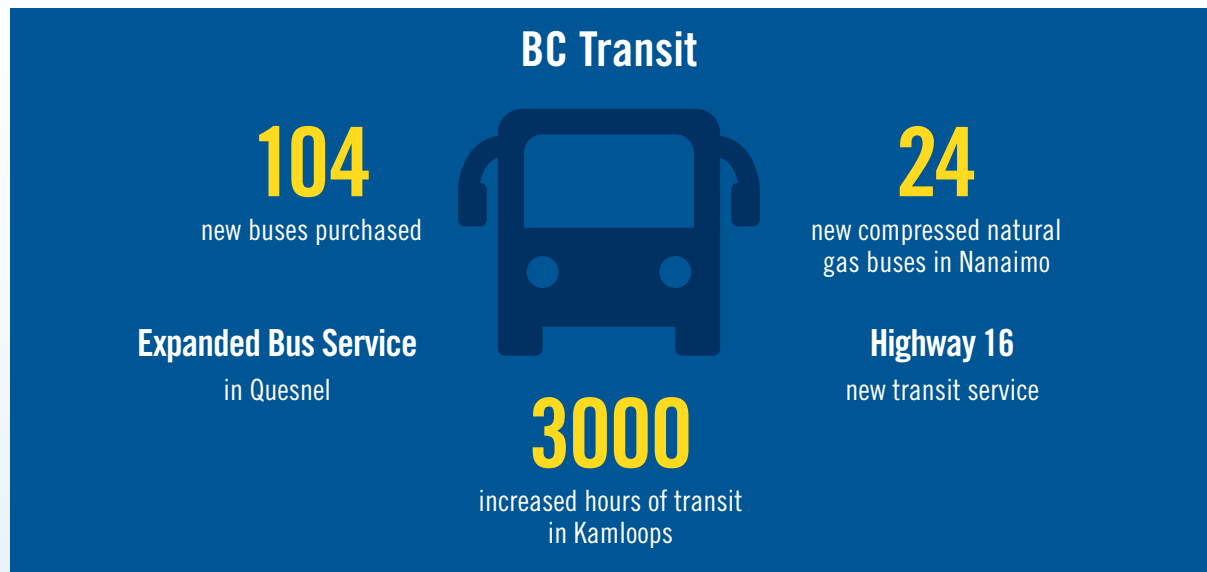
DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Match the federal government's \$2.2 billion investment in Metro Vancouver transit projects over 11 years.
- » Negotiate with all three levels of government on project specifics, with the Surrey LRT Project and the Broadway Line our two top priorities.
- » Continue to work constructively with the Mayor's Council to move forward on their 10-year Vision for Metro Vancouver Transportation.



BC Transit

BC Transit provides services to 130 communities serving 1.6 million British Columbians outside of Metro Vancouver, with a fleet in excess of 1,000 buses that move commuters, students and seniors every day.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Provided BC Transit with more than \$1 billion for capital and operating expenses, with their budget being increased 6 years in a row.
- ✓ No other province provides public transit for communities with less than 10,000 people – BC Transit serves 66 communities that wouldn't have transit anywhere else in Canada.
- ✓ Expanded BC Transit services, including:
 - Purchased and installed 104 new buses into the provincial bus fleet.
 - Delivered 24 new Compressed Natural Gas buses to the Regional District of Nanaimo.
 - Increased 3,000 service hours of transit in Kamloops.
 - Expanded bus service in Quesnel
 - Introduced transit service along Highway 16

DRIVING FORWARD:

- » Match the federal government with \$333 million to BC Transit.
- » Increase funding to BC Transit and Handy-Dart services in communities across BC based on population need and transit usage.
- » To support dedicated commuter service between Victoria and the Western Communities, complete and assess a study on the use of the E&N railway corridor.
- » Increase transit in the Sea-to-Sky corridor and examine the possibility of commuter rail through the corridor to Vancouver.

Investing in transportation around the province

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Increased funding for road and bridge maintenance by \$80 million – a 25% increase over the last 15 years.
- ✓ Committed \$22 billion to improve and expand port, rail, road, and airport facilities through the Pacific Gateway Alliance with industry partners.
- ✓ Invested more than \$230 million in cycling grants and infrastructure across the province since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Recently or soon to be completed projects include:
 - Interchange investment at 72nd Ave and Highway 91 in Delta
 - Completion of Phase 2 of the Highway 97 Cariboo Connector 4-laning program between Cache Creek and Prince George

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Introduce a \$500 annual cap for commuters who use tolled bridges.
- » Complete the construction of the George Massey replacement bridge.
- » Complete the Alex Fraser Bridge capacity improvements.
- » Complete the Interchange investments at Sunbury, Nordel, and Tilbury on the South Fraser Perimeter Road.
- » Complete the six-laning and build interchanges between 216th and 264th on the Trans-Canada Highway.
- » Complete the interchange upgrades at Lower Lynn Creek on Trans-Canada Highway in North Vancouver
- » Complete the four-laning of the Trans-Canada highway from Kamloops to the Alberta border.
- » Complete Phase 3 of the Cariboo Connector – a \$200 million project to ensure a safe four-lane highway between Prince George and Cache Creek.
- » Complete safety improvements at the 10 Mile Slide location of Highway 99 east of Lillooet
- » Complete the Highway 97 widening in Kelowna from Highway 33 to Edwards Road
- » Eliminate the last remaining road-rail conflict on Highway 16, at Mile 28 east of Terrace
- » Complete the interchange work at Admirals Road / McKenzie Avenue in Greater Victoria.
- » Move forward with the Okanagan Valley corridor program and further planning for a second crossing over Okanagan Lake.
- » Invest in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure upgrades.



"The government has earmarked additional funds to build infrastructure and refurbish critical infrastructure in the province. This too helps bolster BC's competitiveness and also improves the quality of life for our residents."

*Business Council of British Columbia
(News Release, Feb. 21, 2017)*

- » Invest in British Columbia's local, regional and community airports.
- » Invest in truck parking facilities such as the recently completed Nordel Truck Parking facility and the recently announced truck parking project under the Port Mann Bridge in Surrey.
- » Continue Highway 7 Corridor enhancements.
- » Provide funds to create a Business Case for the inland Ashcroft port terminal.
- » Urge the federal government to abandon any attempt to sell YVR or any B.C. airport.
- » Contribute \$500,000 to fund a study to improve access to all airports north of the Malahat.
- » Contribute half of the \$27 million upgrade to Highway 4 near Kennedy Lake providing better access to Ucluelet, Tofino and Pacific Rim National Park.
- » Work with ICBC and the CRD to identify and repair high crash sites on the Pat Bay highway in Saanich.
- » Invest in the Meadowood connector business case pre-feasibility study.

Job highlights:

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's Robert's Bank Terminal 2 – during operation, the project will generate approximately 1,550 person-years of employment on-terminal, and an estimated 10,850 person-years of employment from off-terminal activities like trucking, railways, distribution facility operations, and container storage logistics.

Better, more affordable ferries

BC Ferries is the primary link between British Columbians living on our spectacular coast and island, and residents living on the mainland. After several tough years of declining ridership, things are looking up. BC Ferries is again turning a profit, while at the same time replacing aging vessels and planning to improve future service.

Through the first three quarters of 2016/17, BC Ferries increased their profit by almost \$20 million over the previous year, on the strength of carrying 4% more vehicles and 3% more passengers.

With their improved financial position, ferry fares have been capped at 1.9%, less than the anticipated rate of inflation, until 2020. New ferries are coming into service, with the first two Salish-class vessels already delivered, which can be powered by clean, inexpensive natural gas.

Today's BC Liberals recognize that people who rely on BC Ferries face higher costs than British Columbians living on the mainland. And there's more we can do.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

BC NDP and BC Greens – Appalling record on BC Ferries:

During the **BC NDP's** time in government:

- Between 1991 and 1999, the **BC NDP** increased BC Ferries rates by 72% and debt *still* increased by 1,800 %.
- Claimed that Fast Ferries would cost \$70 million right down to the cost of toilet paper – but the final cost of the project was \$462.6 million.
- The Fast Ferries never worked and were eventually barged to Abu Dhabi and sold for \$19.4 million (\$6.5 million/vessel)

Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens would more than double the carbon tax – meaning higher prices on every BC Ferries trip in British Columbia.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ BC Ferries is once again posting a profit.
- ✓ Through the first three quarters of 2016/17:
 - BC Ferries carried 4% more vehicles and 3% more passengers than the previous year.
 - Net income at BC Ferries was \$118 million, up almost \$20 million from the previous year.
- ✓ BC Ferries is taking delivery of new ferries to replace ones built in the 1960s and 70s, modernizing its fleet to better suit ferry passengers.
- ✓ Capped ferry rate increases at 1.9 % through 2020.
- ✓ Secured federal funding for BC Ferries capital projects to reduce pressure on fares.

The infographic consists of four icons on a dark blue background, each with a yellow text label below it. From left to right: 1. A yellow card with a white ferry icon, labeled 'NEW' in large yellow letters, with 'loyalty program by 2020' in smaller white text below. 2. A red wallet with a yellow dollar sign, labeled 'NEW' in large yellow letters, with 'fare tax deduction' in smaller white text below. 3. A white smartphone with a yellow WiFi symbol, labeled '\$1 m' in large yellow letters, with 'for improved WIFI' in smaller white text below. 4. A blue ferry on waves with a yellow flame above it, labeled 'NEW' in large yellow letters, with 'natural gas powered ferry' in smaller white text below.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Create a loyalty program to reduce costs for users in ferry dependent communities by 2020.
- » In the interim years, create a tax deduction to offset the cost of ferry use on taxable income for users in ferry dependent communities.
- » Re-introduce a new, sustainable ferry service between Port Hardy and Bella Coo-la to be operational in time for the summer 2018 tourist season for Island and Interior communities.
- » Provide \$1 million to boost coverage and reliability for WiFi services on board BC Ferry vessels and in parking lots.

Homes for British Columbians

Today's BC Liberals know that affordable housing is a critical issue for many middle-class families. Whether you were born in British Columbia or have come from another province or country, our plan is designed to help you realize the dream of home ownership.

To help families and individuals who want to get a head start on investing in a new home, Premier Christy Clark established six principles to guide decisions about how to address housing affordability in Metro Vancouver:

- » Ensure the dream of home ownership remains within reach for the middle class
- » Increase housing supply
- » Invest in smart transit expansion
- » Provide support to first-time home buyers
- » Ensure consumer protection
- » Increase rental supply



BC NDP and BC Green Record – Increasing taxes:

- **David Eby and the BC NDP** are proposing a 2% tax on homes across British Columbia that would hit seniors particularly hard.
- We have created nearly 3.5 times more affordable housing units while in government than the **BC NDP** ever did.
- The **BC NDP** is promising to scrap the BC HOME Program which will help 42,000 households own their first home.
- While they initially voted for it, the **BC NDP** now oppose our foreign buyers tax in Metro Vancouver.
- **Andrew Weaver** also opposes the 15% foreign buyers tax. *"I'm concerned that a 15% national tax is racist." (John Horgan, RedFM, September 14, 2016)*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Introduced a 15% Foreign Buyers Tax in Metro Vancouver to cool off the housing market and help make homes more affordable for buyers while maintaining the equity of current owners.
- ✓ Increased the Homeowner Grant Threshold to \$1.6 million to ensure 92% of British Columbians are still able to receive the grant despite rising home values
- ✓ Introduced a new Property Purchase Tax exemption for new homes built up to \$750,000.
- ✓ Amended legislation to enable the City of Vancouver to create a Vacancy Tax.
- ✓ Made the largest ever one year investment of \$920 million to create close to 5,300 new units of affordable rental housing.
- ✓ Created close to 24,000 new units of affordable housing.
- ✓ New Building Act that supports increased efficiency, productivity, and innovation in provincial construction sector.
- ✓ Continued to help more than 10,000 families each year with their private market rent through the Rental Assistance Program (RAP).
- ✓ Supporting 20,000 families each year with subsidized housing.
- ✓ Assisting almost 20,000 senior households each year with their rent through the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters program (SAFER)
- ✓ Introduced the B.C. Home Renovation Tax Credit to assist seniors with the cost of renovations to improve accessibility or mobility in a home



More affordable housing action:



New Reno

Tax Credit for secondary suites



\$700 m

towards BC HOME program

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Increase housing supply by working with municipalities to speed up permitting and open new opportunities for housing.
- » Expand the Home Renovation Tax Credit eligibility to those renovating their home to accommodate a secondary suite.

- » Raise the threshold of the First Time Home Buyers' Program exemption to \$500,000, saving first-time home buyers up to \$8,000.
- » Invest \$700 million in the BC HOME Partnership program to provide mortgage down payment assistance loans to an estimated 42,000 first-time home buyers over the next three years. In the first 3 months, almost 1,200 people have applied and almost 1,000 have been approved.
- » Continue support for RAP and SAFER to assist over 33,000 low-income families and senior households with their rent each year.
- » Provide housing support to the close to 53,000 seniors' households that receive assistance today
- » Maintain the ability of seniors as well as homeowners who are financially supporting a child to defer all or part of their property tax on their primary residence.

"B.C. offers interest-free loans up to \$37,500 to 1st-time homebuyers"

(CBC, December 16, 2016)

Modern, transparent, accountable government

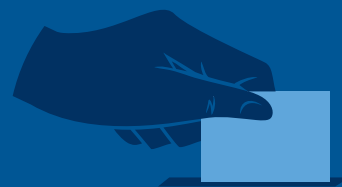
Transparency in government is a fundamental of any democracy, but also a hallmark of modern, smart societies.

Today's BC Liberals have significantly improved the disclosure of political party contributions, increased disclosure on MLAs expenses, and are committed to striking an independent panel to examine all aspects of political party financing, which will make recommendations to the legislature on how to move forward on this important issue.

But one thing is clear – we don't support a system that will take taxpayer money to fund political parties, like the BC NDP would.

We believe in supporting a modern, transparent, and accountable government. That's why we have also dramatically improved how British Columbians interact with government online, and are providing more consultation and engagement opportunities than ever before.

Federal tax dollars to political parties



\$60.4 m

for election expenses credits to political parties and candidates

Police raid NDP offices in charity-ripoff probe

(Vancouver Sun, October 13, 1995)

Stupich stole \$1 million: Cops (The Province, October 13, 1995)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Established the Auditor General for Local Government to enhance transparency and accountability of local governments.
- ✓ First Canadian province to legislate a duty to document, improving open government and best practices in information management.
- ✓ Modernized the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Amend the Elections Act to require real time disclosure of donations to political parties.
- » Commission an independent Election Act Review Panel to review proposals on political fundraising reform, in B.C. and across Canada, and make recommendations to improve the system.
- » Undertake a full review of Capital Regional District governance structures and implement improvements to make CRD decision-making more accountable to South Island residents.
- » Develop a Surrey Charter to recognize the City as one of the largest and fastest growing communities in Canada.



4 CREATING OPPORTUNITY



4. CREATING OPPORTUNITY

World leading K-12 education

Ensuring the world's best education outcomes for our students is the best way to make sure they can benefit from one of North America's strongest economies. British Columbia has a K-12 education system that is one of the best in the world. Our Grade 10 students were recently ranked first in the world for reading, second in science, and sixth in math by the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). But we know the world doesn't stand still, and we have to keep working to stay on top.

“Working together – teachers, parents, students, and government – we can make our excellent public education system the best in the world.”

Premier Christy Clark (Facebook, April 30, 2015)

New schools and classrooms

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

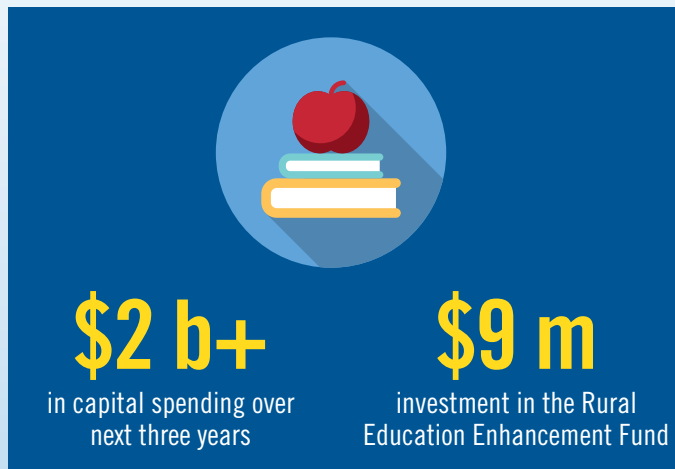
- ✓ Invested more than \$1.4 billion in new and improved schools, including more than \$500 million in seismic upgrades since 2011.
- ✓ Secured the longest contract ever with the BC Teachers' Federation, and invested over \$300 million in new teachers across B.C.
- ✓ Implemented coding modules for Grades 6 to 9 so students in every region can learn coding and vital analytical and critical thinking skills for careers in tech and other sectors.
- ✓ Invested \$2 million in rural teacher recruitment and retention programs.
- ✓ Implemented a new elementary school curriculum with the BCTF that reflects educational content and modern ways of student learning

"I am pleased to see that government has recognized the need for significant further investments in public education. A robust and effective K-12 education system is critical to the health and prosperity of the province."

Teresa Rezansoff (B.C. School Trustees Association, Canadian Press, February 21, 2017)

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest over \$2 billion in capital spending over the next three years for schools, including addressing significant enrolment growth in Surrey with \$217 million for up to 5,200 new student seats.
- » Strive to secure another long-term contract with the BCTF to provide long term stability in the classroom for parents, students and teachers.
- » Undertake a full educational funding review to ensure rural and fast-growing school districts have the resources they need to educate their students.
- » Maintain the \$9 million investment in the Rural Education Enhancement Fund while the review is taking place.
- » Reconstitute and provide a new mandate to the Rural Education Advisory Council.
- » Create a new Richmond Project Office, to build and upgrade schools in Richmond over the next three years.
- » Fully implement the interactive, web-based school district reporting tool to allow parents to review their school and district compared to others.
- » Complete the Seismic Mitigation Program for B.C. schools to support student safety.



Our efforts to seismically upgrade schools have won praise:

“A success story that is about bringing the best engineering science to protect students in B.C.”

(Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC,
News Release, October 16, 2014)

The BC NDP failed to seismically upgrade schools in the 1990s.

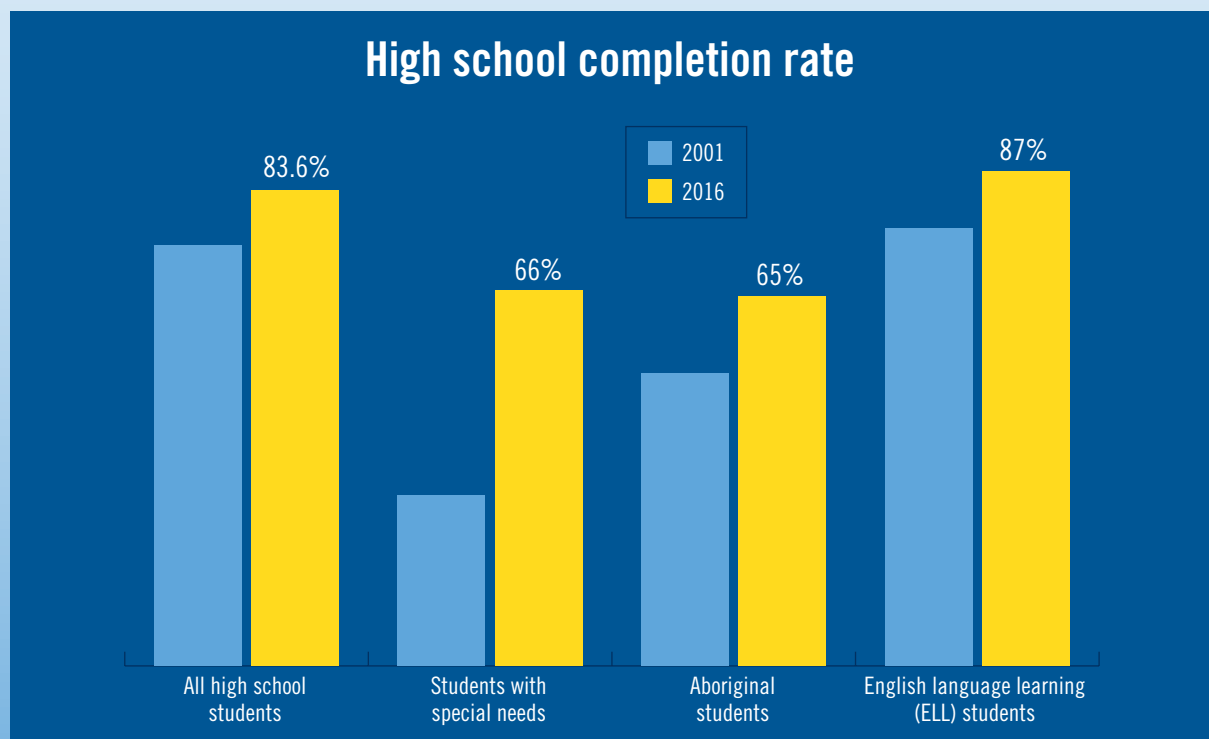
“The fact is we are not going to unroll a huge budget to fix old schools.” (NDP’s Education Minister, Vancouver Sun, June 11, 1998)

“Quake safety plan for schools stalled.” (Vancouver Sun, December 6, 1993)

The BC NDP actually chose to seismically upgrade a liquor warehouse, instead of upgrading a nearby school that had 2,000 students.

The record level of investments we are making in our schools today is only possible because we have been able to get to yes on economic development. The BC NDP and the BC Greens would shut down British Columbia’s economy, leaving less money for the priorities of British Columbians, including education.

K-12 student success



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ B.C.'s grade 10 students were recently ranked first in the world for reading, second in science, and sixth in math by PISA.
- ✓ Providing \$1,200 in a one-time BC Training and Education Savings Grant to every family with a child born in 2006 or later, to start saving for their child's post-secondary education.
- ✓ Added \$29 million for school supplies and to help teachers implement our new school curriculum.
- ✓ Created the 10-point ERASE Bullying Strategy, the most comprehensive anti-bullying and threat assessment strategy in Canada.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Provide \$228 million to fund enrolment growth across the fiscal plan period.
- » Invest \$54 million to eliminate bus fees for students and mitigate rural school closures.
- » Ensure all new elementary schools get a publically funded playground.
- » Continue to support parental choice in education – Today's BC Liberals will not change the independent school funding formula.





Investing in teachers

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Reached an affordable agreement and five years of labour peace with the BCTF – providing time to work together to put the focus back on supporting students.
- ✓ Invested \$6 million for teacher training and computers so new coding programs and the new curriculum are a success.
- ✓ Provided a \$500 tax credit for teachers who volunteer as coaches or arts programs and commit time to students outside of regular class hours.

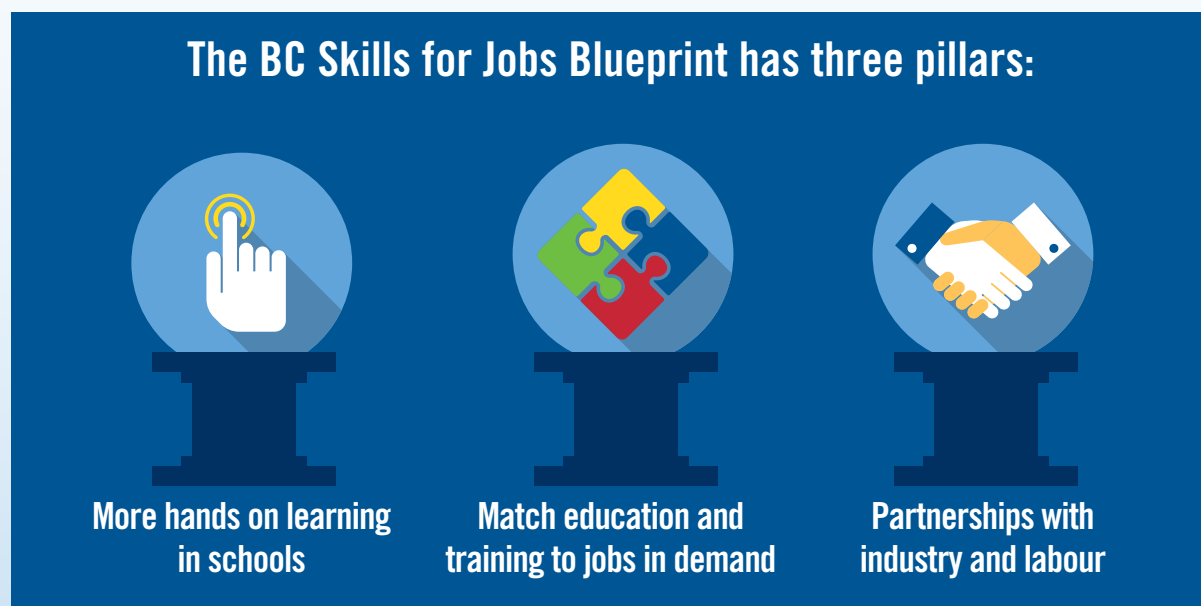
DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Successfully conclude another six-year contract with the BC Teachers' Federation to ensure long-lasting stability in B.C. classrooms for parents, students, and teachers.
- » Implement the March 2017 agreement with the BC Teachers' Federation on class size and composition.
- » Provide \$5 million over the next two years to fund teacher retention programs in rural school districts.
- » Establish a student-teacher loan forgiveness program in rural districts with extreme teacher attraction and retention challenges.

Education and training for the jobs of today, and tomorrow

With up to one million job openings expected by 2025, our plan is focused on taking full advantage of our growing economy by ensuring that the right training is available at our post-secondary institutions in different regions of the province. From trades to tech, we are re-engineering the way our post-secondary system works to ensure that British Columbians can take full advantage of the jobs of today, and tomorrow.

Skills for Jobs Blueprint



Today's BC Liberals are determined to ensure British Columbians are first in line for the job openings to come. Filling these job openings is a significant challenge, and our ability to provide the right workers with the right skills in the right places requires a vision and a plan.

Whether you're a student in high school, recently graduated, or looking for a change in your career, the BC Skills for Jobs Blueprint is designed to help you get the education you need for the job you want. With new programs, seats, and grants to help you get there, our plan is already working.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Realigned \$130 million for education and training for in-demand jobs.
- ✓ Committed \$185 million in trades infrastructure and equipment for post-secondary institutions throughout the province.
- ✓ Allocated \$65 million a year from the Government of Canada for skills training programs across the

province through the Canada-BC Job Fund.

- ✓ Over 4,100 employers accessed the Canada-BC Job Grant to train more than 20,000 employees.
- ✓ Added nearly 3,000 trades seats to improve access to high-demand trades, and support a strong, growing economy.
- ✓ Implemented a reporting requirement for all provincially funded projects in excess of \$15 million in value regarding use of apprentices.
- ✓ More than 4,600 single parents are involved in the Single Parent Employment Initiative and over 900 have already found employment.
- ✓ Invested \$30 million in the Aboriginal Skills Development Fund.
- ✓ Committed \$15 million over three years for Youth Trades Capital funding accessible to school districts throughout the province.
- ✓ Committed an additional \$7.8 million in new youth trades funding.
- ✓ Provided \$650,000 to 27 school districts to increase recruitment capacity and skills training.
- ✓ 53 School Districts participated in the Shoulder Tappers program, giving one-on-one mentorship and career support to students.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Complete the redirection of \$3 billion in training investments to focus on skills and better align annual investments into programs for in-demand jobs by 2024.
- » Continue the Canada-BC Jobs Grant to provide up to \$15,000 to offset the cost of training new employees in high demand occupations – helping up to 6,800 British Columbians.
- » Create 1,000 new seats in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math to help British Columbians get training to work in the tech sector, and once the first 1000 are graduating, work on another 1000.
- » Work to have the highest labour market participation for people with disabilities by 2024.
- » Create a new Truck Logger Training Credit to help offset the cost to train people on the job.
- » Make permanent the BC Training Tax Credit program that provides employers with an incentive to hire and train apprentices and trade workers.

The BC Skills for Jobs Blueprint is designed to help you get the education you need for the job you want.

Investing in trades and post-secondary facilities

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Invested more than \$3.3 billion in capital and infrastructure projects at public post-secondary institutions since the BC NDP was in power, including more than 1,900 capital projects throughout the province.
- ✓ Opened new trades training centres at Camosun College in Victoria and the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt, and a renewed trades centre at Okanagan College in Kelowna.
- ✓ More than \$85.4 million has been invested in new and improved libraries at UBC, Okanagan College, BCIT, University of Northern BC, University of Victoria, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Thompson Rivers University, Vancouver Island University and Langara College.

More schools and spaces for British Columbians:

\$3.3 b
in projects since 2001



\$2.6 b
to come

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest \$2.6 billion in capital spending by post-secondary institutions for new buildings and renewal of infrastructure at campuses across the province, including:
 - › The Teaching and Learning Centre at the UBC Okanagan campus to support research and foster innovation in the B.C. Interior.
 - › \$15 million for the replacement of the trades-training centre at the Northern Lights College Dawson Creek campus.
 - › \$6.9 million for the new heavy-mechanical trades-training facility at the College of New Caledonia Prince George campus
 - › \$2.88 million for the new trades-training centre at Okanagan College Vernon campus.
 - › \$10.34 million for the Silver King Trades Campus renewal project at Selkirk College in Nelson.
 - › \$11.87 million for the modernization and renewal of the trades- training facilities at Northwest Community College in Terrace.
 - › \$7.03 million for the new industrial-training and technology centre at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops.
 - › \$45 million for the Energy Systems Engineering Building at SFU Surrey, including the mechatronics technology incubator program.
 - › Up to \$101 million for the Emily Carr University of Art + Design Redevelopment Project.



Rednering of New Emily Carr University campus

- › Up to \$19 million to upgrade and expand the undergraduate teaching laboratories at UBC.
- › \$31 million for the Health Sciences Centre at the Interurban campus of Camosun College.
- › Up to \$12 million for the Chip and Shannon Wilson School of Design at Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Richmond Campus.
- › \$14.7 million in upgrades to the Spruce Building at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.
- › \$9.5 million towards the marine, automotive and trades complex expansion at Vancouver Island University.
- › \$3.8 million towards a trades training facility at College of the Rockies.

Post-secondary student success

BC NDP record on post-secondary:

Froze tuition, but didn't provide funding to cover the shortfall resulting in fewer classes, creating longer waitlists and higher cut off points for admission.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Invested more than \$1.8 billion each year in public post-secondary education – about \$5M a day, an increase of over 45% since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Added more than 32,000 student seats, including 2,500 graduate student spaces, as well as seven public university campuses since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Invested \$3.3 billion in 1,900 capital projects at universities and colleges throughout B.C. since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Capped tuition increases at 2% since 2005. B.C. undergrads currently pay lower tuition than Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick – \$839 less than the Canadian average.
- ✓ Launched a provincial open textbook project, with more than 170 open textbooks already available online for free – saving over 34,000 students as much as \$3.9M so far.
- ✓ Disbursed approximately \$4 billion in loans and grants to make education more accessible since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Targeted provincial grants to benefit 22,000 students, investing approximately \$55 million annually.
- ✓ The BC Loan Forgiveness Program forgives 100% of student loans over a five-year period for eligible professionals.
- ✓ The BC Training and Education Savings Program provides a grant of \$1,200 to eligible children born in 2006 or later that can be used toward the cost of their post-secondary education.



- ✓ Federal/Provincial Repayment Assistance Plan helping low-income British Columbians to manage their student debt.
- ✓ Provided grants of up to \$5,500 to former youth in care who want to pursue training and education beyond high school.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Lower the interest rate on student loans to the prime interest rate – saving students approximately \$45 million over the next three years.
- » Continue to expand the open textbook program by committing an additional \$10 million over the term.
- » Invest nearly \$6 billion in education and training in 2017.
- » Maintain the 2% cap on tuition and fee increases at provincial universities, colleges and technical institutes.
- » Create a one stop shop for student applications with a single point of entry for applicants to B.C. post-secondary institutions to reduce the necessity of providing an application and fee to each institution a student applies to.



- » Working with post-secondary institutions, develop new student housing financing rules that allow student housing to be built without impacting the provincial debt load or credit rating.
- » Match qualified students with available seats across the province with a coordinated management of excess capacity in our public post-secondary schools.
- » Change how student eligibility is assessed to exclude assets for students not residing with their parents or a spouse which will allow the loan limit to be increased for almost 25% of borrowers.
- » Provide a 50% tuition rebate for Canadian Armed Forces veterans to help them upgrade their education at B.C. public post-secondary institutions and transition into civilian life.



Reconciliation and economic development with B.C. First Nations

Today's BC Liberals are committed to province-wide reconciliation, and also reconciliation on a nation-to-nation basis. The annual First Nation's Leader's Gathering with the Premier and Cabinet served as a forum for broader dialogue on a range of issues of shared concern including economic development, education, and social welfare.

One area of mutual interest was the shared responsibility to First Nation youth to ensure that the gap that exists regarding access to education and other opportunities is closed permanently so that every young person in B.C. has the same advantages from a growing economy.

"My life's work has been getting First Nations to the table with industry and government, so that all British Columbians can benefit from economic development."

Ellis Ross (former Haisla Chief Councillor and Today's BC Liberal Candidate)

Educational outcomes for First Nations students have greatly improved over the past decade with more students completing high school, and more going on to post-secondary studies. There is more work to do.

Narrowing the gap means making the necessary investments at the provincial level and federal level. It means changing the curriculum for all B.C. students so they learn about First Nation history, culture, and traditions. And it means ensuring that the opportunity for a good paying, family supporting job exists in communities throughout British Columbia.

As well it means reviewing our current approach to benefit Indigenous British Columbians. One example is with respect to improving First Nation child welfare. Recognized as a key priority, the government asked Grand Chief Ed John to do a comprehensive review of this area and his report has provided guidance on the path forward. The government has already started implementing 40 of his 85 recommendations.

Today's BC Liberals understand that pursuing economic development and reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia go hand in hand.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Achieved nearly 400 economic agreements with First Nations over the last five years – bringing \$63 million in benefits to those communities in the last year alone.
- ✓ Hosted annual First Nation Leader's Gatherings with the Premier and Cabinet.
- ✓ Appointed Grand Chief Ed John as a special advisor to the Minister of Children and Family Development.
- ✓ Committed up to \$30 million for LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative projects.
- ✓ Invested up to \$2.5 million over three years to support the B.C. Assembly of First Nations' continued development of the First Nations Sustainable Economic Development Strategy.
- ✓ Committed up to \$9 million over three years to the Tsimshian Roundtable, a partnership with the Tsimshian First Nations and LNG proponents for skills training and economic development.
- ✓ Supported more than 1,200 Aboriginal people with training – with an additional 1,000 receiving training in 2017.
- ✓ Developed culturally sensitive supports and programs for Indigenous women, men and children affected by domestic violence, including financial support for the Moose Hide campaign.
- ✓ Became first in Canada to have a province-wide First Nations Health Authority that works collaboratively with First Nations, Health Canada, and the B.C. provincial health system to improve health programs and services, and foster an approach that reflects First Nations culture.
- ✓ High school completion rates for First Nation youth are up from 51.5% to 65% since 2001.
- ✓ First Nation history, culture, and traditions are now woven into B.C.'s new K-12 curriculum to make it more relevant for Indigenous students and also educate non-Indigenous children.
- ✓ Established the Premier's Awards for Aboriginal Youth Excellence in Sport to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Indigenous youth athletes throughout the province.
- ✓ Appointed a Parliamentary Secretary for Métis Relations.

"Improving the quality of life of First Nations people and ensuring they see the benefits from Canada's strongest economy is reconciliation in action. Some First Nations are seeing considerable economic successes."

Premier Christy Clark (September 2016)

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Support First Nations' involvement in the forest sector by tripling enrollment in the First Nations Forestry Technical Training Program by 2019.
- » Support partnerships between First Nations and industry proponents for improved access to skills training and economic development opportunities.
- » Help Indigenous businesses increase their participation as suppliers and sub-contractors of major industrial projects in communities across B.C.
- » Commit an additional \$2 million to the Royal BC Museum to support interested First Nations in seeking the return of their ancestral remains and belongings of cultural significance.
- » Implement the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report.
- » Focus on improving student outcomes for First Nation children to further close the gap for high school completion and post-secondary studies with non-First Nation students.
- » Increase the number of First Nation staff in the Ministry of Children & Families and ensure that all staff are provided training regarding individual First Nation identities and cultures
- » Focus on improving permanency planning and cultural connections for First Nation children and youth in care.
- » Continue to have a Parliamentary Secretary to advise on Métis relations.
- » Continue the Premier's Awards for Aboriginal Youth Excellence in Sport to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Indigenous youth athletes throughout the province.
- » Work with Destination BC to expand and promote Aboriginal tourism opportunities.





**5 HEALTHY STRONG
COMMUNITIES**

5. HEALTHY, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Helping families with child care

Parents know the challenge of having to balance the needs and care for their children with the demands of their job. Today's BC Liberals understand the importance of having access to good child care – that is why we launched a BC Early Years Strategy aimed at increasing both the number of available spaces and the quality of care.

The real challenge is making sure there are enough spaces to cut through waitlists, and making sure there are enough child care workers to provide a safe environment to help your child develop. Artificially subsidizing prices does damage to the system parents rely on. In addition to the high cost, over \$1.5 billion dollars a year, the BC NDP's plan would subsidize people who can already afford to pay. Imagine – a child care system where people making a million dollars' a year qualify for a handout from your tax dollars. What's worse – under the BC Greens' plan, millionaires would pay nothing at all.

13,000 new childcare spaces by 2020.



We believe in a system that creates new spaces for parents. And that's what we are doing. Since 2014 this action has meant 4,300 more childcare spaces. In the recent federal budget, the federal government set aside funds for child care spaces, and Today's BC Liberals will work collaboratively on a shared goal of increasing spaces in British Columbia to fulfil our commitment of 13,000 new spaces by 2020.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Created 4,300 new childcare spaces since 2015.
- ✓ Added 14 Early Years Centres, with 47 now in communities across the province.
- ✓ Introduced the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit that provides \$145 million each year to 180,000 families – approximately 90% of families with children under the age of six.
- ✓ Funded 326 StrongStart BC programs supporting 385 communities to assist with early learning and socialization pre-kindergarten
- ✓ Became the first province in Canada to fully exempt child-support payments for families receiving income assistance in 2015, benefitting an estimated 3,300 families this year.
- ✓ Became only the second province to exempt Employment Insurance maternity and parental benefits from monthly income assistance in 2016-17.
- ✓ Introduced Arts and Sports Tax Credits for parents of children who participate in organized sports and cultural activities.

Increasing child care spaces in BC:



4,300
since 2015

5,000
new spaces in 2017

13,000
new, additional, child care
spaces by 2020

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Work with the federal government on their new plan to expand the number of childcare spaces in British Columbia.
- » Increase investment in childcare by \$352.5 million to:
 - › create 5,000 new child care spaces in 2017, with a goal of up to 13,000 spaces by 2020.
 - › invest over \$90 million available for operating expenses to keep child care costs more affordable.
 - › invest \$120 million each year for the Child Care Subsidy program that helps 20,000 B.C. families with the cost of child care each month.
- » Maintain the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit for the 180,000 families with kids under the age of six.

Building on a strength – health care in B.C.

B.C. has the best health outcomes in Canada, and since forming government, Today's BC Liberals have made record investments in making sure British Columbians live long, healthy lives. From our investments in new and expanded hospitals, to more than doubling the number of doctors who graduate from B.C. medical schools, to creating healthy-senior friendly communities—Today's BC Liberals understand that there is nothing more important than the health of an individual.

And while we have made huge strides, we know there is much more to do as our population continues to grow and age.

Today's BC Liberals have a plan for health care. Now and into the future.

“British Columbia is among the top performers in the world when it comes to health. The province has one of the highest life expectancies in the world as well as one of the lowest mortality rates due to cancer – the number one killer in Canada. It is also among the provinces with the lowest shares of deaths due to heart disease and stroke and respiratory diseases.”

Gabriela Prada (Director, Health Innovation, Policy and Evaluation, Conference Board of Canada, February 12, 2015)



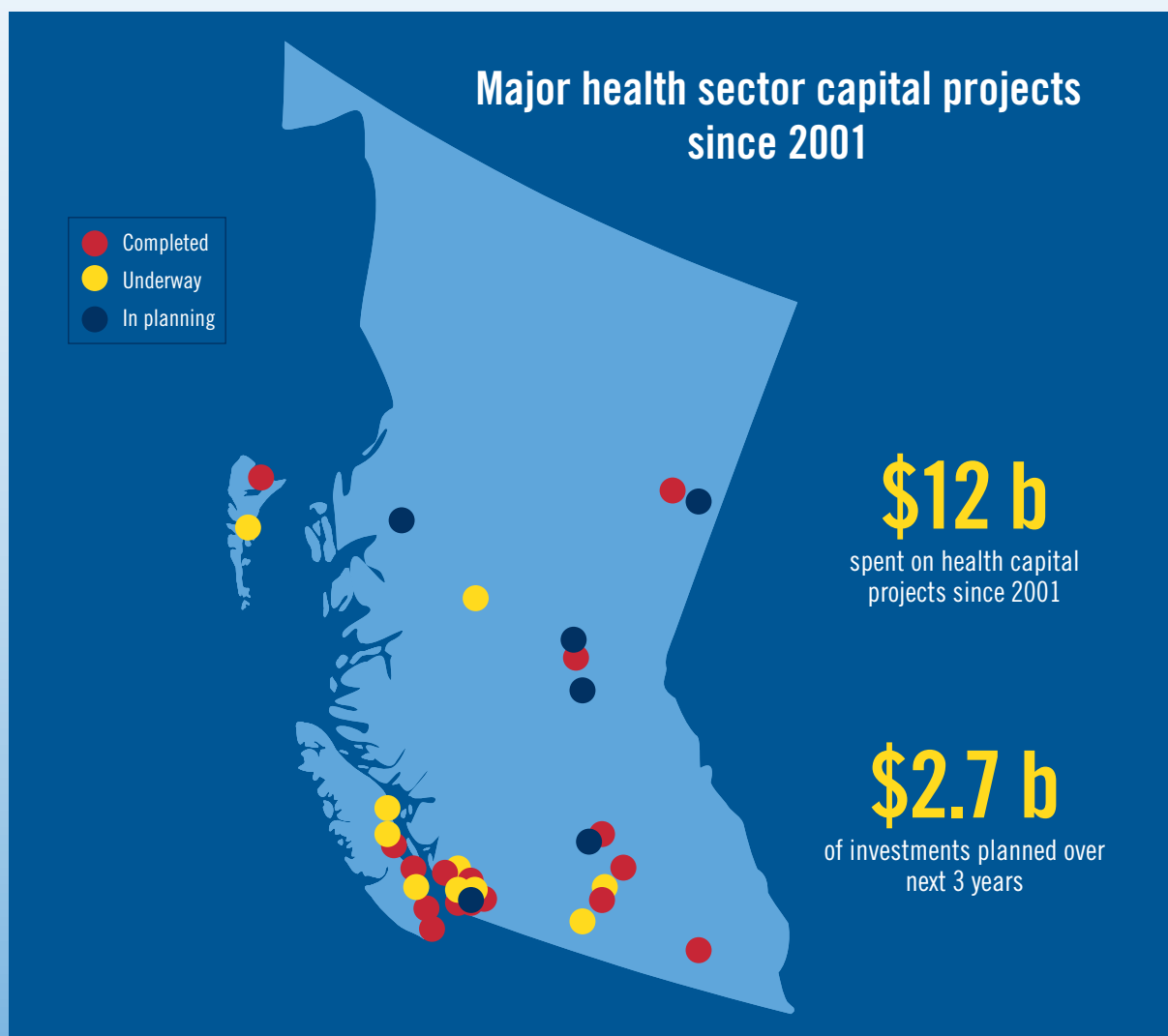
Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

BC NDP and BC Green Record – Failure on health care:

The BC NDP:

- Failed to build a single new hospital in the province.
- Eliminated nearly 1,600 full time nursing positions in a four- year period. (Vancouver Sun, July 19 2001)
- Closed over 3,500 hospital beds in BC in the 1990s – nearly 1/3rd of all hospital beds in BC.
- Failed to create even one new medical school space.
- Wait times increased:
 - Hip replacement waits increased 112% from 9.4 weeks to 19.9 weeks
 - Knee replacement waits increased 114% from 12.3 weeks to 26.4 weeks
- Per capita number of long term care beds for seniors fell by 18% in four years alone under the **BC NDP**. (CCPA)

Andrew Weaver and the BC Greens would shut down B.C.'s economy – meaning the record health investments we are making today would no longer be possible.

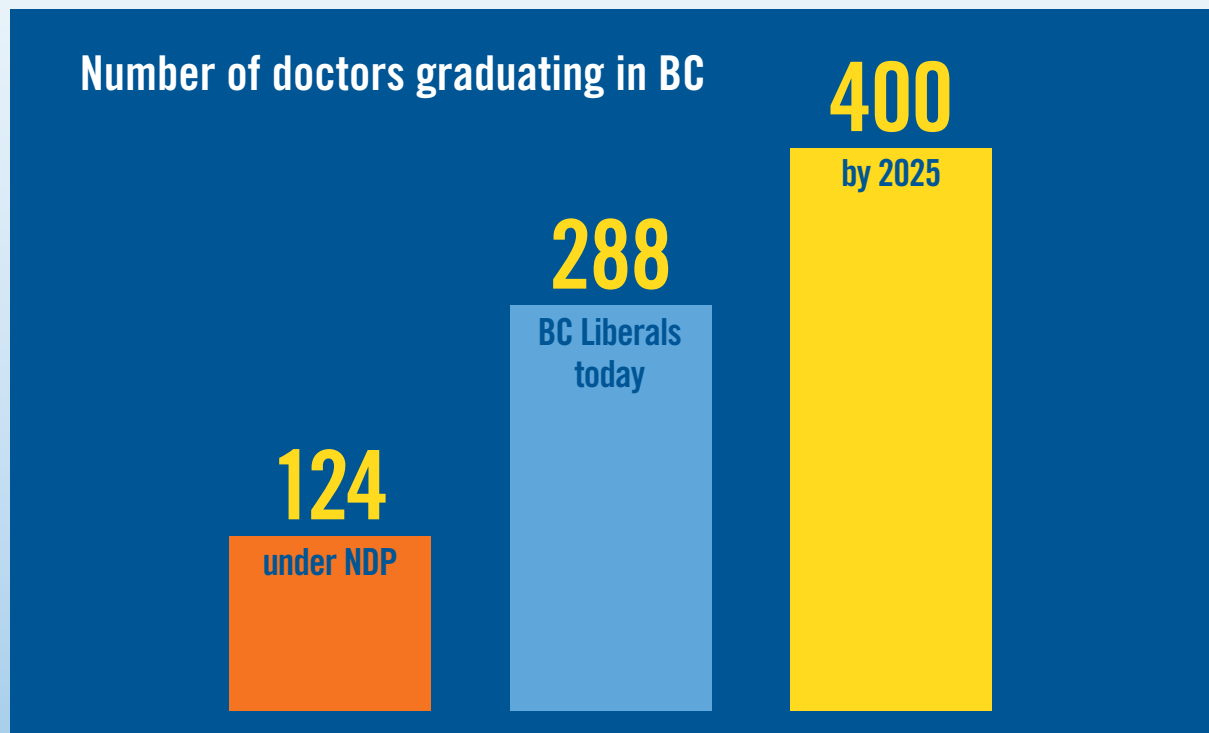


Increasing and supporting medical professionals

Today's BC Liberals have more than doubled the number of medical school graduates since the BC NDP were in power, and have provided incentives for family physicians to relocate to British Columbia. But just like other parts of the country, doctor recruitment and retention remains a challenge.

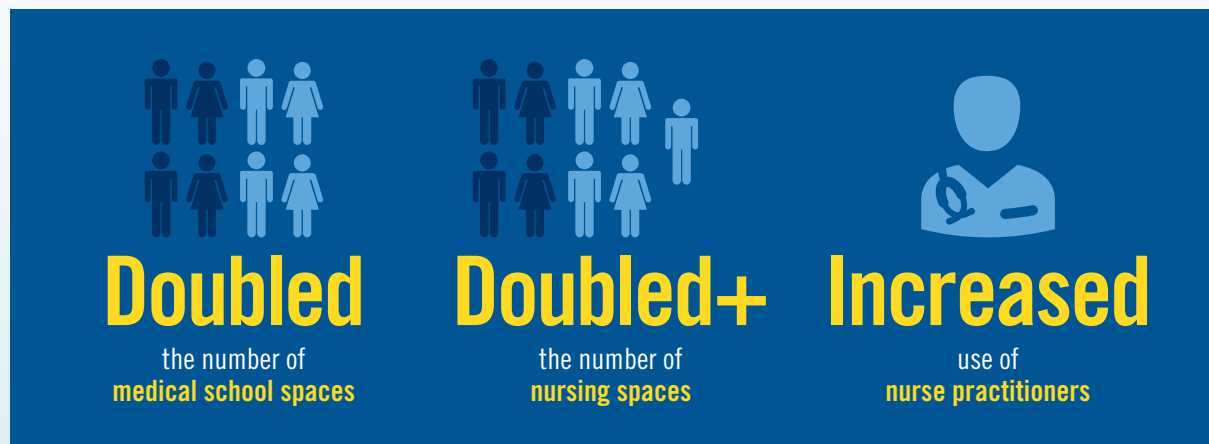
We now have medical students training not only in Metro Vancouver, but in the North, on the Island and in the Interior through creative partnerships between our research universities and health authorities. Today, there are 32 medical students accepted in each distributed medical school, with 192 located at the University of BC in Vancouver.

We graduated our largest class of doctors ever in 2015, and we need to do more to fill the practices of doctors who are close or ready to retire. We also know there are pressures in nursing with a 2015 CIHI report finding that across Canada over 25% of Registered Nurses are over the age of 55. Specialty nursing, nurse practitioners, and other in-demand medical professions like speech pathology, audiology and physiotherapy also require new investments to train the health care providers of tomorrow.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Doubled the number of medical school spaces from 128 first-year student spaces in 2002 to 288 first-year student spaces in 2011.
- ✓ More than doubled the number of nursing spaces, adding almost 4,800 new student spaces to train registered nurses, psychiatric nurses, specialty nurses, nurses re-entering the workforce and licensed practical nurses, as well as nurses with advanced degrees.
- ✓ Doubled the number of midwife spaces at UBC.
- ✓ Record of labour peace with doctors and nurses.
- ✓ Became the first province to cover acupuncture treatments for a diagnosed condition for visits with practitioners registered by the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists (CTCMA) as a supplementary benefit for the Medical Services Plan premium assistance recipients.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Increase the number of medical professionals in B.C. by:
 - › Adding to the number of graduating doctors from B.C.'s medical programs to 400 by 2025—ensuring that the majority of these new students are placed in the distributed medical programs at the University of Victoria, University of Northern British Columbia and UBC Okanagan.
 - › Funding to train an additional 500 nurses per year across the province by 2022.
 - › Train and place an additional 100 nurse practitioners across British Columbia.
 - › Create additional spaces for in-demand professions, such as physiotherapists and speech therapists
 - › Identify retention programs to ensure these health care providers remain in rural and northern communities.
- » Expand our Practice-Ready Assessment-BC program that fast-tracks international physicians into clinical practice in rural communities.
- » Work with colleges to amalgamate B.C.'s three nursing colleges into one.
- » Retain and recruit rural palliative care professionals.
- » Invest \$91.4 million towards ambulance response times and supports to paramedics and dispatchers.

Increasing scope of practice

A growing and aging population means British Columbia needs a vigorous plan to ensure people have the health care they need. As people age, they need more health care services than they did in their earlier years.

We are fortunate to have highly-skilled and highly-trained medical practitioners across the province that can help. We need to make sure all of them can contribute to your health, and we've already started making progress. British Columbians can now get flu shots and travel vaccines at their local pharmacist's office. But there is more we can do to safely expand the scope of practice for medical professionals – from nurse practitioners to pharmacists.



The government of Queensland, Australia undertook a far-reaching examination of the ways to improve the scope of practice of a broad number of health care professions. If re-elected, Today's BC Liberals will develop and implement a Ministerial Task Force on Expanded Scope of Practice, with a special focus on how we provide better access to health care in rural and remote communities.

In addition to the Ministerial Task Force and developing strategies to attract and retain existing health care practitioners, Today's BC Liberals will work with provincial medical credentialing colleges to safely and responsibly expand the scope of practice of medical practitioners in British Columbia thereby reducing pressure on general practitioners, registered nurses, and other in-demand professionals.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Eliminated barriers and provided greater opportunity for nurse practitioners to meet patients' needs.
- ✓ Now have more than 400 nurse practitioners practicing throughout the province, increasing patient access in places like Burns Lake, Lillooet, Bella Bella and Sayward.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Work with provincial health authorities and medical credentialing colleges to develop and implement a Ministerial Taskforce on Expanded Scope of Practice with a special focus on expanding service access to rural and remote communities.
- » Work with provincial medical credentialing colleges to safely and responsibly expand the scope of practice of nurse practitioners in British Columbia, thereby reducing pressure on doctors, registered nurses, and other in-demand professions.
- » Work with the Doctors of BC and BC Health Authorities to allow nurse practitioners in areas underserved by general practitioners, access to MSP fee codes for treatment in addition to referral services.
- » Explore additional scope of practice expansion for pharmacists.

Seniors care

Today's BC Liberals understand the challenges that accompany a growing and aging society. People are living longer and over the past years, we have increased the options available to seniors and their families to help seniors stay in their homes independently, as long as possible.

But we know that having mom and dad living in either their home, or with other family members, puts added strain on family finances if renovations are required, or additional care is needed.

We want to help. We know that not all family members are able to stay in their homes forever. That's why Today's BC Liberals have invested hundreds of millions of dollars to increase the number of residential care spaces in the province and upgrade our current facilities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Age-friendly community grants have funded 286 projects throughout British Columbia since 2007.
- ✓ Funded 18 communities with Age-Friendly Community Planning and Project grants in 2017.
- ✓ Provided \$31 million in funding to enhance the Better at Home program in more than 100 communities, helping seniors stay in their homes longer.
- ✓ B.C. has 27,700 residential-care beds and 4,468 assisted-living beds, an increase of almost 6,900 seniors-care beds since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Invested \$2.9 billion in home and community care in 2015-17 – an 88% increase since the BC NDP was in power.
- ✓ Increased the number of clients receiving home health services 36% between 2001 and 2016.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Double the Home Renovation Tax Credit to \$20,000 to make home improvements to accommodate seniors or family members with disabilities.
- » Introduce a Respite Tax Credit of up to \$2,500 for people caring for seniors or family members with disabilities.
- » Use all funds provided by the federal government in the recent BC-Canada health agreement for incremental home care and mental health supports.
- » Invest \$500 million to ensure seniors in residential care facilities are provided with a minimum of 3.36 care hours per day.
- » Complete our commitment to double the number of hospice spaces in British Columbia by 2020.
- » Build and publicly fund an additional 500 long-term care beds across British Columbia by 2022.
- » Introduce an Active Seniors Tax Credit to support and promote seniors leading active healthy lifestyles.
- » Provide \$1 million in grants to communities across British Columbia to build activity areas that are appropriate for seniors suffering from dementia.
- » Provide an additional \$2 million to the Union of BC Municipalities to fund our age-friendly communities program and expand access for seniors across our province.



Investments in hospitals

Since we were first elected, Today's BC Liberals have made major health care infrastructure investments across the province. And we aren't stopping there.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Approximately \$12 billion has been invested in health facilities, including 30 completed major health capital projects throughout our province since the BC NDP was in power, including:

Vancouver Island

- Opened 500-bed Royal Jubilee Hospital in early 2011.
- Nanaimo Regional General Hospital:
 - Tripled the size of the Emergency Department in 2012
 - \$9.4 million to build a renal dialysis unit in 2010.
- Committed \$606 million for new hospitals in the Comox Valley and Campbell River

Mainland Southwest

- New \$123-million Gordon and Leslie Diamond Centre Outpatient Hospital at Vancouver General Hospital, benefiting an estimated 600,000 patients each year.

- Invested \$57 million in the Joseph & Rosalie & Family Health Centre at Vancouver General Hospital to support people with complex mental health and substance use challenges.
- \$476 million 300-bed Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre.
- \$237 million Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgery Centre, Fraser Valley's first outpatient hospital.
- \$101 million for a new Centre for Mental Health and Addictions on the Riverview site to replace the current facility in Burnaby.
- \$512 million for a new critical care tower, including a new emergency department, neonatal intensive care unit and additional inpatient beds at Surrey Memorial Hospital.
- \$678 million for the 3-phase Redevelopment of Children's and Women's Hospitals in Vancouver.
- \$62 million towards the acute mental health facility, the HOpe Centre, at Lions Gate Hospital.

Thompson/Okanagan

- \$429 million for new patient care towers at Vernon Jubilee Hospital and Kelowna General Hospital.
- \$381 million towards the Interior Heart and Surgical Centre at Kelowna General Hospital, to accommodate a new cardiac centre, surgical centre, laboratory and inpatient units.

Interior/Kootenay/Northwest

- \$20 million for an ICU and electrical upgrade at East Kootenay Regional Hospital in Cranbrook.
- \$55 million for the new Lakes District Hospital and Health Centre in Burns Lake.
- \$50 million for the Queen Charlotte/Haida Gwaii hospital replacement project.

Number of hospitals built by Today's BC Liberals vs. the BC NDP



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest \$2.7 billion in capital spending on infrastructure in the health sector over the next three years.
- » Complete on time and on budget previously announced major capital infrastructure, including:
 - › New St. Paul's replacement hospital in Vancouver
 - › Full re-development of Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster.
 - › Re-development of Burnaby Hospital
 - › Penticton Regional Hospital redevelopment
 - › North Island Hospitals Project building 2 new hospitals in Courtney-Coxox and Campbell River
 - › Royal Inland Hospital Patient Tower Project in Kamloops
 - › G.R. Baker upgrades in Quesnel
 - › Complete the emergency department at Nicola Valley Hospital and Health Centre
 - › Construction of 16 new operating rooms at Jim Pattison Pavilion at VGH
- » Complete the business case and begin construction on a replacement for Mills Memorial Hospital in Terrace.
- » Review the concept plan put forward by Interior Health for Cariboo Memorial Hospital and move to business case stage as early as September 2017.
- » Undertake a new concept plan for University Hospital re-development in Prince George.
- » Develop a business case for Richmond Hospital with the potential of additional specialized residential care spaces for Chinese-British Columbians and space for practitioners of Chinese Traditional Medicine.
- » Update the Phase 1 concept plan for the Dawson Creek District Hospital, and subject to approval, proceed with a business case development by the end of 2017.
- » Revitalize and upgrade of the 99-bed extended care facility at Mount St. Joseph Hospital in Vancouver, working with Providence Health Care.
- » Complete placement of the 4 new MRI machines in Nanaimo, Maple Ridge, Surrey, and Vernon.
- » Receive and assess the concept plan for the re-development of Cowichan District Hospital.
- » Move forward with the approved the business plan for the expansion of Eagle Ridge Hospital's emergency department, more than doubling the number of treatment spaces from 19 to 39.
- » Invest \$65 million towards an expanded emergency department and surgical suite at Peace Arch Hospital in South Surrey.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

Mental health for BC

There was a time when those with mental health and substance use problems would be forced to suffer in silence because of the shame and stigma associated with these treatable disorders. While we're making progress to prevent, treat and support people on their path to recovery, there is always more to do.

This is one of the reasons we moved to secure a new, long-lasting funding agreement with the federal government that will invest new money into critical mental health supports across the country.

Today's BC Liberals will work with the federal government to begin flowing these additional investments as quickly as possible so British Columbians have easy and effective access to these programs and treatment options.

2016 was also a year of needless deaths from opioid overdoses, particularly with the rise of illicit fentanyl and carfentanil across Canada. Every one of these preventable deaths reminds us that no one is spared from the danger of these toxic drugs, or the suffering of addiction. Here in B.C., we have led the country in our response to this crisis, being the first province to declare a public health emergency and assemble an expert Joint Task Force, investing upward of \$100 million in acute and longer term harm reduction and recovery-focused initiatives to save lives.

Comprehensive action to combat the opioid crisis:

- Invested \$100 million to fund a comprehensive acute and long term strategy to combat the overdose crisis, spearheaded by our health and criminal justice Expert Joint Task Force
- Established a first of its kind BC Centre on Substance Use, to provide world-class research and clinical guidance under the direction of leading addictions expert, Dr. Evan Wood.
- Increased access and coverage for opioid substitute treatments like suboxone so addicts can safely transition off of illicit drugs
- Met our 500-treatment bed commitment and provided an additional \$10 million to give up to 240 people residential and intensive out-patient recovery services
- Distributed over 30,000 no charge Naloxone kits, a key antidote that immediately reverses an overdose
- Worked with the federal government on a national approach to public safety and law enforcement, included the regulation of pill presses and enhanced border controls to intercept and block toxic drugs like fentanyl and carfentanil
- **Driving forward** – Fully utilize the additional \$10 million provided by the federal government to continue to prevent fentanyl and carfentanil deaths.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Investing \$1.5 billion annually to address mental health and substance use, including programs for children and youth.
- ✓ Helping around 27,000 children and youth with community mental health services annually – over double the number who received services in 2003.
- ✓ \$10 million for the inaugural BC Centre on Substance Use.
- ✓ Tele-Mental Health videoconferencing in several northern communities to connect children and youth to psychiatrists in Vancouver.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Confirm \$165 million for youth mental health needs and substance abuse issues with the following investments:
 - › \$45 million to provide resources to allow for more mental health counselling and treatment for children.
 - › \$12 million to provide up to 28 highly specialized addiction treatment beds for youth.
 - › \$9 million for the expansion of youth service centres at up to five sites, each expected to reach 1,200-2,500 more clients annually.
 - › Up to \$5 million to support mental health services for post-secondary students.
 - › \$2 million annually for the BC Centre on Substance Use, largely for clinical research in support of evidence-based addiction treatments.
 - › \$10 million to reduce wait lists for substance use treatment services incremental to those provided by the Health Authorities.
 - › \$65 million over two years for the acquisition and renovation of buildings to house some of our most vulnerable, including those with mental health and substance use issues.
- » Launch five integrated youth service centres in Abbotsford, Campbell River, Kelowna, North Shore, and Prince George through Foundry.
- » Reopen the Crossing at Keremeos near Ashnola, a 22-bed program to provide intensive residential substance use treatment for youth young adults aged 17-24.
- » Fund an additional 250 mental health and problematic substance use beds by 2022.

“I haven’t seen a budget over the past couple of years that has made such explicit mention of priorities around mental health and addictions.”

Jonny Morris (Senior Director of Public Policy, Research, and Planning for the Canadian Mental Health Association’s BC Division, CBC, February 21, 2017)

Healthy people and children



Keeping British Columbians healthy and active is the best way we can control the growth in our health care budget. Our new primary care health initiative is one way Today's BC Liberals are moving to keep people healthy in their communities. As an example, we have announced a new primary care clinic in Kamloops that will be staffed by both doctors and nurse practitioners providing primary care to patients and coordination with other professionals to ensure they get the follow up care they require.

In addition, Today's BC Liberals have continued to list new treatments and preventative measures to keep British Columbians healthy. In 2014 and 2015, British Columbia listed new treatments to cure patients of Hepatitis-C with Galexos, Sovaldi, and Harvoni. These treatments will prevent the hospitalization and possible death of people with the disease. We can, and will do more to keep British Columbians healthy.

B.C.'s leadership on HIV/AIDS

B.C. is a recognized global leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The BC-Centre for Excellence (BC-CFE) in HIV/AIDS has been highly successful in the development and implementation of an HIV strategy that has become the cornerstone for the control of HIV/AIDS in Canada and the world.

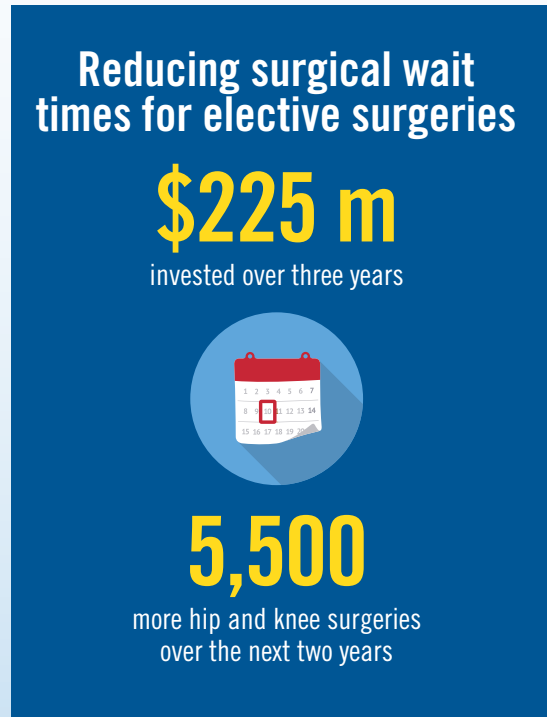
Driving forward – Today's BC Liberals will work with Dr. Julio Montaner to rebrand the BC-CfE into a TasP (Treatment as Prevention) based Innovative Targeted Disease Elimination Platform to promote health care sustainability.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Regulated sale of e-cigarettes with passage of Tobacco Control Amendment Act.
- ✓ Extended HPV vaccine to boys in grade 6 starting in September 2017.
- ✓ Provided assistance with prescription costs based on ability to pay through Fair PharmaCare.
- ✓ Provided dental services to nearly 135,000 income assistance recipients and children in low-income families through Healthy Kids Program.
- ✓ Provided \$1 million to the BC Dental Association to support children in low-income families access treatment at not-for-profit community dental clinics.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest \$225 million over three years to reduce surgical wait times for elective surgeries – with no impact on emergency surgeries.
 - That means 5,500 more hip and knee replacement surgeries over the next two years.
- » Commit \$90 million to fund integrated community-based primary care services to more communities across British Columbia.
- » Increase the B.C. tobacco tax by 10 percent and dedicate all increased revenues to fund cancer research and treatment.
- » Work with the BC Prostate Cancer Foundation and BC Cancer Agency to develop funding models and guidelines to support a funded PSA screening program.
- » Establish a shingles vaccination program for seniors.
- » Work with Providence Health Care to create a new Centre of Excellence for Chronic Disease Management at the new St. Paul's Hospital Campus in Vancouver.
- » Invest \$6 million annually to improve child health benefits for low-income families including dental care.
- » Invest \$5 million per year to fund Canuck Place Children's Hospice.
- » Invest \$60 million per year for healthy eating programs for vulnerable students.



Caring for people

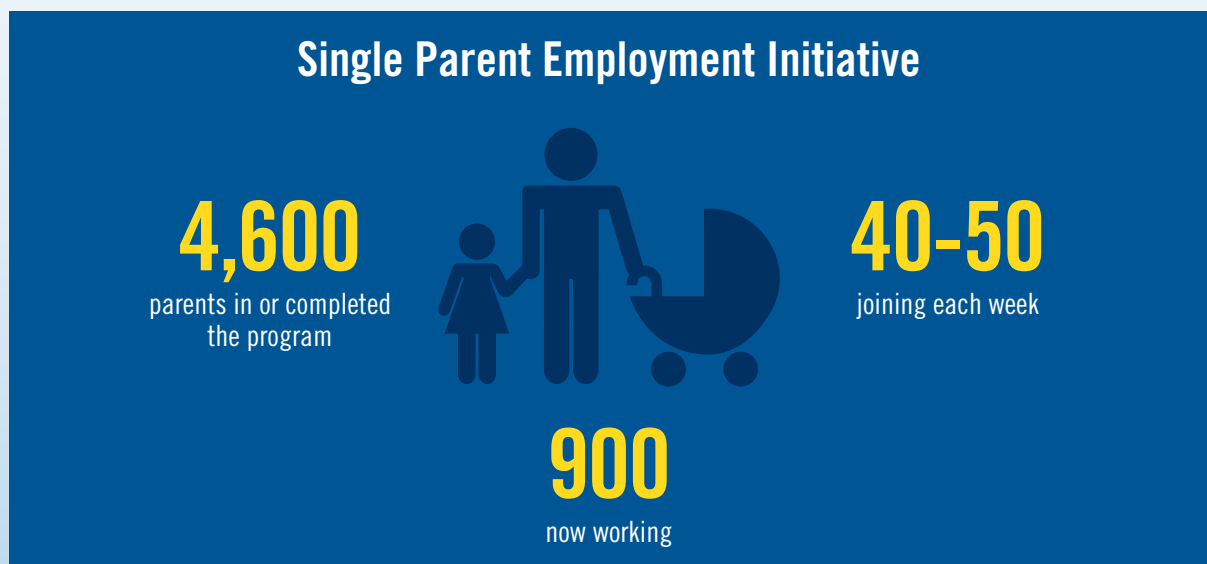
Today's BC Liberals have made jobs and economic growth a priority to ensure that we are able to take care of the people that we love. It's because of the fact that we are a leader in economic and job growth that we are able to make significant investments in things like health care, education, and programs to help people in need.

One way we're doing that is with the Single Parent Employment Initiative (SPEI). The SPEI was created in response to hearing of a series of practical barriers within the government's system of supports that created a disincentive to single parents on income or disability assistance who wanted to find work or improve their training for a job.

"Between the education opportunity and daycare coverage, and the other supports the program offers, it's an opportunity for success. There is no downside to utilizing this program."

Sarah (SPEI participant)

This program removed many obstacles, and has cleared the way for 4,600 parents to sign up with over 900 now working. Today, on average 40-50 new single parents join each week and 47 are finding a job each month. That is real progress – because we know that the best thing for any family is a job.



Having a job while balancing the care for one's children is difficult under the best of circumstances, but we recognize even more so for that of a single parent. We know that for many single parents the dream of further training or education to advance in their current workplace or seek a better paying job is too often an impossible struggle. We've heard the frustration from some that see our province enjoying unprecedented job growth with more high-paying, skilled job openings than ever before, but need help to take advantage of this opportunity.

Today's BC Liberals will create a Low Income Families in Transition (LIFT) program to help single, low-income parents who have a job, but want to improve their training and skills so they can get better paying work.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Helping people get off social assistance:
 - Created the Single Parent Employment Initiative
 - Provided \$7 million to the Community Poverty Reduction Fund to support the development and implementation of poverty reduction strategies.
- ✓ Reduced the number of people dependent on income and disability assistance by 59,000 (24%) since 2001.
- ✓ Support for persons with disabilities:
 - Became the first province to fully exempt child support payments for families on income or disability assistance
 - Became the first province to introduce annualized earning exemptions of \$9,600/year for persons with disabilities.
 - Increased asset limits for people on disability assistance.
 - Extended the Home Renovation Tax Credit to include persons with disabilities.
 - Created the WorkAble internship program for new graduates with disabilities to enter the BC Public Service. 75% of first year interns still work for the Public Service
 - Established a network of business leaders to engage with employers to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
 - Modernized the Guide Dog and Service Dog Act to strengthen the rights of those with service dogs.
 - Cut red tape by simplifying the disability assistance application process.
- ✓ Finding forever homes:
 - 644 children and youth found a forever home in 2015/16, marking the highest annual adoption count since the Adoption Act came into effect in 1997.
 - Created a new online adoption site, Adopt BC Kids, to allow prospective parents to manage and track their application process online – with over 200 prospective families signed up already.
- ✓ Helping youth in care:
 - Created the Youth Advisory Council made up of youth formerly in care to advise government on transitional policies as youth age out of government care.
 - Developed Agreements with Young Adults (AYAs) for youth formerly in care to encourage upgrades to education or for rehabilitative programs, and recently doubled the term of the agreement to 48 months and extended the age eligibility to age 26. Currently more than 2000 young adults have benefitted.
- ✓ Invested \$20 million in the Pacific Autism Family Centre.
- ✓ Provided \$10 million to BC Food Banks to expand refrigeration and storage capacity for perishable foods.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Continue to invest in the success of the Single Parent Employment Initiative with a goal of having 10,000 single parents apply for the program and 5000 starting jobs.
- » Develop a Low Income Families in Transition (LIFT) pilot program that provides temporary assistance to low-income single working parents so they can take time away from their current employment, or reduce their hours without financial penalty, and assist with training, childcare and transit costs while upgrading or acquiring new skills.
- » Commit more than \$3.1 billion in 2017 to help individuals and families in need.
- » Provide an additional \$199 million to increase the assistance rates for about 100,000 people with disabilities by \$50/month.
- » Increase funding for community living services by \$135 million over the next three years to continue to provide support for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
- » Consult with families to develop long-term care plans for Community Living BC clients with aging parents.
- » Work to become the province with the most generous child benefit exemptions for the calculation of income and disability assistance.
- » Increase the net income threshold for low-income individuals to \$19,749 to qualify for the BC Tax Reduction Credit.
- » Encourage charitable giving with a substantial increase in the value of the tax credit for charitable donations to a maximum value of \$500 on the first \$1,100 of donations.
- » Make permanent the BC Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit to encourage farmers and farming corporations to donate certain agricultural products they produce to registered charities such as food banks or school meal programs.
- » Create a Minister responsible for accessibility who will work to make B.C. the most accessible jurisdiction for disabled people in North America.
- » Ensure emergency response plans of local governments include consideration for people with disabilities.
- » Continue to work towards the goals of Accessibility 2024 with a specific commitment to:
 - › Establish an accessibility lens on regulations and legislation

Accessibility 2024

Accessibility 2024 is B.C.'s 10-year action plan to become the most progressive province in Canada for people with disabilities. The plan was constructed after broad public consultation with thousands of British Columbians and sets out clear goals with concrete steps to reduce barriers to create more accessible, inclusive communities. The 12 Key Building Blocks: Inclusive Government; Accessible Service Delivery; Accessible Internet; Accessible Built Environment; Accessible Housing; Accessible Transportation; Income Support; Employment; Financial Security; Inclusive Communities; Emergency Preparedness; and Customer Experience.

- › Ensure all government owned or leased customer service buildings are fully accessible by 2020 (exceptions for heritage properties)
- › Work with B.C. technology companies to be early adopters to showcase and test new accessibility technologies in government buildings and services
- › Work with the BC Hotel Association to develop regulations regarding accessible room requirements in new construction
- › Explore developing a registry for accessible housing in B.C.
- › Work with communities to ensure all emergency preparedness plans consider persons with disabilities
- › Work with Destination BC to profile existing and emerging tourism opportunities for persons with disabilities
- » Continue to find forever homes for at least 600 children and youth each year.
- » Help youth in care by:
 - › Investing \$70.1 million to help keep First Nation families together and better support the children currently in care as recommended by Grand Chief Ed John.
 - › Continuing to work to reduce the number of children and youth in care, particularly the over representation of Aboriginal children by:
 - › Supporting families and communities to ensure that children and youth can safely remain at home
 - › Focus on finding forever homes
 - › Continue work with youth in care and those formerly in care to improve high school completion rates with a target of over 55% by 2020.
- » Build on the success of diversion practices to support better outcomes for youth involved in the justice system.
- » Introduce a Safe Care Act that enables direct intervention with youth who are unwilling or unable to access services voluntarily. Youth will be removed from harmful situations involving substance abuse or sexual exploitation, and be placed in a safe environment to receive the appropriate treatment. Before full implementation across the province, the government would first initiate a number of pilot projects to ensure the appropriate supports and services were in place.
- » Work to improve the participation rate in the Agreement with Young Adult program and look at the expansion of supports for this cohort based on the advice of the Youth Advisory Council.
- » Maintain the no-waitlist policy for families to access autism funding once their child or youth has a confirmed diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.



Building safe communities

Today's BC Liberals are committed to keeping British Columbians safe in their schools, communities, and workplaces. Our priorities for community safety include:

- » combating gang violence – with tens of millions of dollars to stop gang violence on our streets.
- » protecting B.C. youth with strong education and school programs and supports that keep children out of gangs, protect them from on-line predators, and teach them about the risks of drugs.
- » modernizing B.C.'s justice system so that it is more efficient, accessible, and responsive to the needs of British Columbians.
- » taking action against drunk driving – as a result we have some of Canada's toughest impaired driving legislation
- » stopping violence against women, and supporting women and children whose lives and well-being have been impacted by violence, including a long-term commitment to end violence against women with the Vision for a Violence Free BC strategy.

Community safety

British Columbians deserve to feel safe no matter where they live. We know that parents want to raise their children in communities where the streets are safe. To help reduce crime, we've increased enforcement and prosecution and invested in community safety and public engagement programs.

One of the most significant changes we've made is the Immediate Roadside Prohibition which has removed drunk drivers from the road and saved hundreds of lives.

The cornerstone of our community safety program is our Guns and Gangs Strategy. The strategy has three pillars:



BC NDP Record on Crime:

Between 1997 and 1999, the number of auxiliary police decreased from 1,119 to 557.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ With the Government of Canada, B.C. invests \$64 million annually in the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of British Columbia, the largest integrated anti-gang police program in Canada.
- ✓ A new Illegal Firearms Taskforce has been established and has hit the ground running, conducting roundtables throughout the Province to hear from communities on ways to strengthen and better use provincial and federal programs related to illegal firearms
- ✓ Implemented tough changes to the Immediate Roadside Prohibition program to immediately take drunk drivers off the road and provide stronger penalties for breaking the law.
- ✓ Invested in Surrey Safe Schools WRAP program to keep at-risk youth out of the gang and criminal lifestyle, with approximately 100 youth participating.
- ✓ Implemented new community safety programs for First Nations communities and Williams Lake.

- ✓ Moved to ensure murderers and others convicted of serious crimes will not be able to profit from their crimes through memoirs or memorabilia.
- ✓ Development of a Crime Stoppers information program.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Implement the Guns & Gangs Strategy to address public safety, keep our communities safe, and keep illegal firearms out of the hands of criminals.
- » Work with police departments to make an additional \$4 million investment in our Guns & Gangs Strategy in rural British Columbia.
- » Work with health and public safety officials to ensure our three principles around the federal government's move to legalize marijuana are respected:
 - › Most importantly, keep it out hands of minors
 - › Prevent organized crime from profiting from the sale of marijuana
 - › Ensure quality is maintained and product ingredients are properly labelled
- » Work with the federal government on a robust education campaign in schools about the serious dangers of using drugs including marijuana.
- » Work with police departments to develop a legitimate marijuana screening device to ensure drug impaired drivers are kept off BC roads.
- » Work with the BC School Trustee's Association and the BC Teachers' Federation to expand drug prevention and education programs in schools focusing on fentanyl and other illicit street drugs.
- » Protect B.C. kids by developing a provincial strategy targeting Online Crime Against Children and Youth:
 - › Work with the federal government to develop tougher sentences for predators that prey on children through the internet.
 - › A cyberbullying action plan to increase awareness for parents and children;
 - › School based peer to peer education, family intervention programs before cyberbullying escalates; and new criminal code offenses to the Crime Victim Assistance Program;
 - › Use of the national tip line, increase public awareness.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

Vision for a Violence Free BC

Domestic violence is an issue that still impacts too many, and too often goes unpunished. Today's BC Liberals have made stopping domestic violence a priority.

A Vision for a Violence Free BC is our 10-year strategy to create a province where women have the supports they need to help prevent violence, escape from violent situations, and recover if they have been victims of violence.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Developed a 10-year strategy, Violence Free BC.
- ✓ Supporting more than 160 police-based and community-based victim services programs and about 250 programs that provide counselling and outreach services to women fleeing violence in their relationships and children who witness abuse.
- ✓ Changed policy to fast-track support for women who self-identify as fleeing domestic violence.
- ✓ Amended the Residential Tenancy Act to remove barriers for victims of domestic violence to leave an unsafe environment
- ✓ Established that protection orders will be served by contracted process servers at no cost
- ✓ Established specialized domestic violence court processes at certain courts in B.C.
- ✓ Legislated a requirement for all post-secondary institutions to write and maintain policies to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct.
- ✓ Created the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence as the permanent lead for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on new or strengthened policies and services available for children, women and families affected by domestic violence.

**Today's BC
Liberals have made
stopping domestic
violence a priority.**

- ✓ Developed a \$5.5-million Provincial Domestic Violence Plan to address the needs of immigrant and refugee women and women with disabilities.
- ✓ Launched the first two phases of the Safe Relationships, Safe Children project.
- ✓ Supported the development of almost 50 Integrated Case Assessment Teams (ICATs).
- ✓ Substantively completed work on all the major themes from B.C.'s Missing Women's Commission of Inquiry final report: compensation, improvements to policing, safety for vulnerable women, and support for missing persons.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Expand the use of domestic violence court processes to address case management pressures and speed up time to trial.
- » Continue to invest over \$70 million per year in prevention and intervention programs and services that benefit victims of domestic violence and other crimes including:
 - › Province wide toll-free Domestic Violence HelpLine available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in 110 languages – the line assisted almost 14,000 people in 2015/16.
 - › Support for nine fully operational domestic violence units in BC
 - › Helping more than 12,300 women and children fleeing violence find shelter through transition houses
 - › Providing support for transportation costs for those fleeing violence in rural and remote areas of the province
- » Continue to implement the Safe Relationships, Safe Child project.
- » Participate in the National Inquiry on Murdered and Missing Women, and share the findings of our provincial inquiry with the federal commission.



Courts, legal aid, and justice

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ \$30 million per year in Family Justice Centres and Justice Access Centres which support families and individuals resolve issues and disputes through mediation and collaboration.
- ✓ An additional \$77.6 million the Ministry of Justice transfers to the Legal Services Society to deliver traditional legal aid services across British Columbia.
- ✓ \$400,000 to expand the Surrey Family Justice Centre into a full-service Justice Access Centre
- ✓ \$2.64 million increase to operate the new Surrey Courthouse
- ✓ \$2.67 million for new Sheriffs, including for the Okanagan Correctional Centre, and for the training of recruits
- ✓ \$1.80 million to support the superior judiciary
- ✓ \$500,000 for new Surrey Crown Counsel to support the Guns and Gangs Strategy.
- ✓ Completed a new \$200-million Okanagan Correctional Centre to safely house inmates and add 300 jobs in the South Okanagan.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Expand the successful legal aid services pilot projects, including a new Parents Legal Centre in Surrey, and add an additional \$2 million per year for single parent legal aid assistance for women.
- » Expand the Civil Resolution Tribunal to continue to move small claims cases out of the court system, making it easier and more affordable to resolve disputes.
- » Move forward with the development of a new Abbotsford courthouse, a \$150-million project.
- » Introduce the Surrey Integrated Services Network Pilot to target prolific offenders whose behaviour is a result of substance use, mental health and housing challenges – the pilot would focus on a collaboration of justice, social services and health agencies to provide support to the chronic offender.

Search and rescue & emergency preparedness

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Invested approximately \$17 billion in capital funding for seismic upgrades to schools, health facilities, and transportation infrastructure, including:
 - Over \$4 billion in bridge and large highway seismic retrofits
 - \$2.2 billion in seismic upgrades for schools
 - Another \$9 billion for capital upgrades to hospitals
- ✓ Largest and broadest investment in search and rescue volunteers in the history of this province, including:
 - Commitment to the more than 80 search & rescue groups, which includes more than 2500 volunteers.
 - \$10-million in funding to help provide tools to SAR groups



- ✓ Created the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative in 2004 to help local governments and First Nations to reduce the risk of interface wildfires:
 - Added \$25 million in April 2011, another \$5 million in March 2015, and another \$10 million in February 2016.
 - 298 Community Wildfire Protection Plans have been completed by local governments and First Nations, with 56 in progress.
- ✓ Introduced legislation to prevent drone owners from flying them near forest fires.
- ✓ Increased our focus on protection and mitigation with the evolution of the current flood protection program into a broader provincial mitigation approach, including:
 - \$50,000 to Ocean Networks Canada to support research for tsunami inundation maps, to assist long-term planning in vulnerable coastal communities
 - Committed \$173 million with the federal government and local governments for 168 flood mitigation projects in 65 communities since 2008.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Provide Emergency Management with more than \$26 million in annual funding for the next three years.
- » Create a \$3,000 tax credit for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue workers.
- » Implement an early warning system for schools and hospitals and other emergency operations sites.
- » Work with UBCM and communities to develop emergency response plans and preventative projects around floods.

Healthy work environment

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Protected women from being forced to wear high heels in the workplace by amending a regulation under the Occupational Health & Safety Act.
- ✓ Created the Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee to support an integrated approach to farm worker safety and to ensure that the rights and safety of workers in the agriculture sector are protected.
- ✓ Changed the Employment Standards Act to hold farm labour contractors accountable for safe transportation of their employees.
- ✓ Changed the Employment Standards Act and Motor Vehicle Act to make seatbelts mandatory for all passengers in 15-passenger vans and to require a notice in each vehicle stating driver, seating and seatbelt requirements.
- ✓ WorkSafeBC has doubled the number of officers dedicated to the agricultural sector from six to 12.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Maintain the current and effective BC Labour Relations Code.
- » Work with industry and labour to establish a licensing system with mandatory certification for all asbestos removal companies that wish to operate in British Columbia.
- » Ensure elected officials are subject to WorkSafeBC healthy workplace and anti-bullying regulations to prevent further incidents of workplace harassment and bullying that were identified in the report conducted for the Vancouver School Board into harassment and bullying allegations about School Board Trustees.
- » Amend the Employment Standards Act to protect people fleeing violent situations from losing their jobs by offering guaranteed job security if they need to take time off as they seek safety away from abusers.
- » Create a new tax credit for worker equipment including items such as safety boots.

Protecting our magnificent environment and wildlife

Our province's natural beauty is rightfully a point of pride for British Columbians – it is also a gift to the world, and we have a responsibility to enhance and protect it. We are blessed with an amazing diversity of natural wonders – oceans, lakes, rivers, trees, mountains, and everything in between. And to top it off, we have a world-class park system that is the envy of the world.





GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST Partnership. Balance. Certainty.



Photo: © 2017, Province of British Columbia

BC Parks and the Great Bear Rainforest

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ From the time the BC NDP was in power, we've added more than 2.3 million hectares to the province's protected areas – including 85 new parks and 156 new conservancies.
- ✓ Already opened 350 new campsites at BC Parks to enjoy this season.
- ✓ Sold 10,000 BC Parks license plates in less than eight weeks with net proceeds being re-invested back into provincial parks.
- ✓ Made a historic contribution to the global environment by protecting the Great Bear Rainforest – the world's largest intact temperate rainforest. After decades of work with First Nations, environmental groups, and the forest sector, this agreement protects 85% of the area's forest, while leaving 550,000 hectares available for sustainable forestry.
- ✓ The Great Bear Rainforest is the only Canadian project to be recognized under The Queen's Commonwealth Canopy Initiative.
- ✓ Created a BC Parks Accessibility Advisory Committee to improve the visitor experience for people with disabilities
- ✓ Developed a plan to protect lands in the in the South Okanagan with the support and participation of the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, Penticton Indian Band and Osoyoos Indian Band.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest \$149 million for parks and environmental protection, including:
 - › \$36 million for the BC Parks Future Strategy
 - › \$9 million for Environmental Management Act compliance and enforcement.
 - › \$9 million for enhanced reforestation work
 - › \$40 million for the Clean Energy Vehicle program.
- » Add \$26 million over three years in base funding for the BC Parks Future Strategy. In this strategy, we are adding:
 - › more than 1,900 new campsites to help meet growing demand.
 - › new park rangers throughout the province, with a particular focus on protecting and preserving the backcountry.
 - › new programs to promote and protect the environment.
- » Ensure that the history and characteristics of the Great Bear Rainforest is included in curriculum so British Columbia youth can learn about and appreciate its unique features.
- » BC Parks will undertake a new Cathedral Grove master plan to protect the park and the people who visit it.



Cleaning up and protecting our environment

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Passed the new *Water Sustainability Act*, which was implemented starting on February 2015.
- ✓ Announced \$148.5 million for the new Clean Water and Wastewater Fund in 2016.
 - Thirty-five projects received approval under the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund in 2016, representing \$60 million in combined funding from the provincial and federal governments in September 2016.
 - 144 project received approval under the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund in 2017, representing \$310 million in combined funding from the provincial and federal governments.
- ✓ Jointly funded up to \$405 million toward the construction of the new Lions Gate Secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- ✓ Invasive mussel defense program began operation in 2015 and consisted of:
 - Six mobile decontamination units;
 - Twelve trained auxiliary conservation officers;
 - Highway signage at crossings along the B.C.-Alberta boundary and Canada-U.S. border;
 - Expanded monitoring for zebra and quagga mussels;
 - Report All Poachers or Polluters response-line coverage;
 - Increasing “Clean, Drain, Dry” education and outreach; and
 - Ongoing collaboration with our neighbouring jurisdictions in Canada and the US
- ✓ Created a well-established program for invasive plants.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Continue to strengthen the mussel defense program to keep quagga and zebra mussels out of B.C.
- » Invest \$1.8 million for 31 grants to regional invasive species committees, local governments and the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia to help control the spread of invasive plants.
- » Provide \$500,000 to support the Fraser Basin Council's Sustainable Solutions Fund.

Responsible wildlife management

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ 20 full time employees dedicated to wildlife management, and 148 Conservation Officers that enforce the Wildlife Act and regulations.
- ✓ Protected wildlife habitat with:
 - Over 1,800 Wildlife Habitat Areas covering 1.3 million hectares to protect habitat for species at risk and regionally important wildlife.
 - 79 ungulate winter ranges covering about 8.9 million hectares to protect habitat for hoofed species.
- ✓ Development of a new five-year plan for species at risk.
- ✓ Developed a plan to strengthen and modernize wildlife management.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest \$27 million to support an enhanced provincial caribou recovery program to ensure caribou maintain self-sustaining populations.
- » Endow the new Wildlife Society with \$5 million to manage and grow habitat, with future hunting fee revenue going towards the society to support their efforts.
- » Develop a plan to protect Steelhead Trout to preserve the species and their spawning grounds, including reaching out to the federal government to develop a collaborative approach.

Science based approach to wildlife management

We are committed to protecting healthy and sustainable wildlife populations. We must operate on the principle of conservation first in order to pass on B.C.'s natural splendour so future generations can enjoy it. That's why our wildlife management practices are determined by the best available science.

Today's BC Liberals will work with the Coastal First Nations towards the elimination of the grizzly bear hunt in the Great Bear Rainforest, continuing with the science based approach to the bear hunt elsewhere in the province.

We know that many First Nations have a deep connection to the land, and also use wildlife for food, social and ceremonial uses. Our hunting, trapping and angling regulations are designed to ensure species conservation and to maintain healthy wildlife populations for use.

Boosting B.C.'s athletes, artists, and our history

Today's BC Liberals support for the province's arts and culture community has exceeded half a billion dollars – more than any other government in B.C. history.

The province benefited from 81,385 culture jobs in 2014, representing 3.5% of total jobs in B.C. With 24,800 artists, British Columbia has more artists per capita than any other province. We are home to the third largest centre for music production in Canada, with over 80 independent record labels, 123 sound recording studios and hundreds of music publishers, managers, talent agencies, marketing and other businesses that support the development and delivery of music.

We recognize the importance of sports, arts, and culture in the overall economy and quality of life in B.C. We are striving to support artists and cultural workers to do what they do best – create new work, inspire audiences, and spur growth.

British Columbia
has more artists
per capita than any
other province

Music and sports

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ Investing over \$50 million in sport in 2017/18, including:
 - \$28.5 million from community gaming grants
 - Over \$21 million in support of provincial sector programming
 - An additional \$720,000 for the Aboriginal Partners Council and BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres.
- ✓ Invested more than \$719 million in new sport infrastructure since 2005.
- ✓ Hosted an array of successful national and international sporting events, including:
 - Canada Winter Games in Prince George
 - HSBC Canada Sevens rugby tournament
 - FIFA Women's World Cup
- ✓ Provided \$60 million in funding for arts and cultural organizations as well as for individual artists in 2016-17.
- ✓ Invested \$15 million in the BC Music Fund to support the growth of B.C.'s diverse music industry.
- ✓ Diverse support for arts and culture in communities throughout the province:
 - Almost \$283 million for the BC Arts Council since the BC NDP was in power;
 - Provided annual operating funds to the Royal BC Museum;
 - \$50 million in a one-time grant for the Vancouver Art Gallery to support a new or refurbished building;
 - \$24 million, a record-high funding level, for arts and culture groups through the BC Arts Council in 2017/18;
 - \$2 million for BC Creative Spaces to improve community arts infrastructure and \$1 million for BC Creative Communities;
 - \$1 million for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra music school;
 - Support for major cultural events, including:
 - Arts & Cultural Festival, 2015 Canada Winter Games, Prince George;
 - 2015 TD Vancouver International Jazz Festival;
 - 2015 Vancouver Writers Fest;
 - 2015 PUSH International Performing Arts Festival; and
 - 2015 Salmon Arm Folk Music Festival.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest an additional \$15 million in the BC Music Fund.
- » Provide an additional \$5 million each year to the Community Gaming Grant program, bringing the annual total to \$140 million to support not-for-profit organizations.

- » Work with the communities on the South Island and the federal government to explore the possibility of a bid to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Victoria.
- » Support the hosting of upcoming tournaments including
 - › IIHF World Junior Championships
 - › NCAA Division I Basketball tournament
 - › 2017 Canada Women's Sevens rugby tournament
- » Explore further opportunities for sports tourism, to attract international sporting events.
- » Create a new fund to support communities in developing new sports fields like soccer and cricket.

History and multiculturalism

Today's BC Liberals are committed to protecting and preserving our cultural and historical legacies, while meaningfully working to resolve historical wrongs. While we've made real progress over the last four years, there's more that needs to be done.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✓ British Columbia welcomes nearly 40,000 new immigrants every year.
- ✓ Directed nearly \$1.6 million in funding toward partnerships and projects aimed at eliminating racism in 2016/17.
- ✓ Delivered the Chinese Historical Wrongs Apology in the B.C. Legislature in May 2014.
- ✓ Established the Legacy Initiatives Advisory Council (LIAC) to advise government on how to ensure meaningful community engagement and successful implementation of B.C.'s Chinese legacy projects, including:
 - Encouraging public education and general awareness
 - Celebrating heritage values
 - Commemorating Chinese Canadian achievement in British Columbia
 - Increasing public awareness to ensure legislated discriminatory practices never happen again
- ✓ Received nominations from the public for historic places with significance to British Columbians of Japanese descent which reflect the development and history of the province.
- ✓ Updated education curriculum to include historical wrongs, including those against Chinese Canadians, specific incidents like the Komagata Maru, and the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.
- ✓ Awarded the Indus Media Foundation a one-time grant of \$248,500 to share South Asian heritage through exhibition displays and learning tools intended for schools and community spaces.



DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Invest up to \$8 million in museums and heritage sites for Canada's 150 anniversary celebration.
- » Conduct a public engagement for B.C.'s 150th anniversary celebration, to hear from British Columbians about how they want to celebrate.
- » Commit an additional \$2 million to the Royal BC Museum to support interested First Nations in seeking the return of their ancestral remains and belongings of cultural significance.
- » Provide \$300,000 in multiculturalism grants to non-profit societies and community-based organizations throughout the province to help them celebrate cultural identity, promote diversity, or challenge racism.
- » Introduce legislation to establish April as Sikh Heritage Month in B.C.
- » Develop a new McAbee Fossil Bed Interpretive Centre.
- » Establish W.A.C. Bennett's home as a designated heritage site.
- » Work with the community of Paldi to provide funding to commemorate it as an historic site and provide support for the restoration of the gurdwara, in celebration of its 100th anniversary.

Protecting pets

Today's BC Liberals believe we have an obligation to protect those we love, and that extends to the furry members of our families too. That's why we have made significant efforts to improve animal welfare in British Columbia.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Introduced amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act to develop a system that supports responsible breeders, and targets the ones that are not.
- ✓ Updated the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 2011 to implement the toughest penalties in Canada.
- ✓ Invested \$5 million in the SPCA in 2015.
- ✓ Provide about \$500,000 to community-based not-for-profit animal welfare organizations through gaming grants a year.

DRIVING FORWARD, TODAY'S BC LIBERALS WILL:

- » Provide \$5 million to support the BC SPCA's eight-year Facilities Development and Service Plan in 2017.
- » Bring into force new regulations from the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act to protect dogs and cats from inhumane breeding practices.



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COSTING

Today's BC Liberals have estimated that the platform will cost an additional \$156.75 million annually by 2019/20, in addition to commitments previously made by or funded through Balanced Budget 2017.

Budget 2017 in millions		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Revenue		50,838	51,196	52,045
Expense		-49,793	-50,402	-51,272
Contingency		-400	-300	-300
Forecast Allowance		-350	-250	-250
Surplus		295	244	223
New Priorities		-50.1	-129.25	-156.75
BC Tech	New Seattle and expanded Silicon Valley BC Trade Offices	-0.5	-2	-2
	Robson Square consultation process	-0.5		
Life Sciences	New life science research chairs	-10		
Agrifoods	Create a new Centre for Salmon Research in Campbell River	-5	-0.5	-0.5
	Contribution to research into commercializing closed containment finfish aquaculture		-0.5	
	Funding for new Agriplex in the Comox Valley	-5		
	Okanagan Tree Fruit replanting program	-2.5		-2.5
	Increase 'Grow Local'		-0.5	-0.5
	Increase 'Buy Local'			-1
Forestry	Increase to Forest Innovation Investment program		-5	-5
	New BC Trade and Investment office in Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.	-0.5	-1	-1
Tourism	Continue Resort Municipality Initiative		-10.5	-10.5
	Tourism Vancouver Island hiking master plan		-0.5	
Small business	South Island Prosperity Project funding	-0.1		
Beer, wine, distillers	Marketing support for BC craft breweries, wineries and craft distilleries		-0.5	-0.5
	BC Wine Institute Centre of Excellence Business Case	-0.15		
	New hops growing program		-1	-1
Rural Economy	Investing in BC Provincial Livestock Fencing Program			-2
	Business Case for Alberni Aquatic Centre	-0.1		
	New McAbee Interpretive Site and youth programming	-5	-0.5	-0.5
	Provide financial assistance to identify and eliminate stands of wood impacted by the Spruce Beetle in northern BC		-2	-2
Transportation	BC Transit additional Handy-Dart service			-5
	Carsharing tax credit		-1.5	-1.5
	Cap on tolled bridges for commuters		-30	-30
	New tax deduction for BC Ferry users in ferry dependent communities		-10	-10
	Business plan for Ashcroft Terminal Expansion	-0.5		
	North Island Airports expansion strategy	-0.5		
	Improving WiFi service for BC Ferries	-1		
Homes for British Columbians	Expand Renovation Tax Credit		-3	-3

Budget 2017 in millions		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Education	Rural teacher retention programming		-2.5	-2.5
	Provide annual funding to BC School Sports	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25
	New rural teacher loan forgiveness program		-2	-2
Skills	New BC Truck Logger Tax Credit		-0.5	-0.5
	New tax credit for safety equipment		-0.5	-0.5
Post-secondary	Increase to the Open Textbook Project		-2.5	-2.5
	Provide 50 percent tuition rebate to returning CAF veterans		-1	-1
Health	Expanding Renovation Tax Credit		-2	-2
	New Respite Tax Credit		-5	-5
	Activity areas for dementia patients	-1		
	Funding to UBCM to fund age friendly community programs	-2		
	New Active Seniors Tax Credit		-2.5	-2.5
Caring for People	New LIFT pilot		-5	-10
	Supports to single mothers facing legal aid access challenges		-2	-2
	Increase value of charitable tax credits		-10	-10
Community Safety	Additional funds for Guns & Gangs for rural communities		-2	-2
	Expand drug prevention and education programs in BC schools focusing on fentanyl	-2		
	Additional support to educate teenagers on marijuana use and brain development		-1	-1
	Early warning earthquake system operations for all BC schools, hospitals and emergency command centers		-11	-12
Environment	Steelhead trout protection plan	-1		
	Provide hunting fee licence revenue to new Wildlife society	-5	-5	-15
	Fraser Basin Council funding		-0.5	
Music and Sports	Continue to invest in BC Music Fund	-7.5		-7.5
	New community field fund		-5	



STRONG BC

BRIGHT FUTURE

 **Today's BC Liberals**

PLATFORM 2017