



Ref.: 94307

Mr. Rick Jensen
Chair
Columbia Basin Trust
300 - 445 13th Avenue
Castlegar, BC V1N 1G1

Dear Mr. Jensen:

This Mandate Letter confirms your organization's mandate, Columbia Basin Trust's (Trust) agreed upon annual strategic direction, and sets out key performance expectations for the 2016/17 fiscal year.

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, thank you for your leadership and the contributions made by the Trust over the past year, and congratulations on the efforts made toward the following achievements:

- The completion of your engagement process that will culminate in a renewed Columbia Basin Management Plan as well as new strategic frameworks and initiatives to address community priorities.
- Discussions with local governments, First Nations, and provincial partners with respect to Board appointments to ensure that appointees have the requisite skills to lead the organization.

In 2014, the Government established a common set of principles for British Columbia public sector organizations (PSOs). The intent of the Taxpayer Accountability Principles (TAP) is to strengthen accountability and promote cost control. These principles instill a common frame of reference to inform decisions and ensure that the actions taken and services provided meet public policy objectives established by the Government on behalf of the citizens of British Columbia. All PSOs are expected to understand the responsibility they have to the citizens of British Columbia and how it is complementary to the fiduciary duty to their organizations.

.../2

**Ministry of
Energy and Mines and
Minister Responsible
for Core Review**

Office of the Minister

**Mailing Address:
PO Box 9060, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2**

**Telephone: 250 387-5896
Facsimile: 250 356-2965**

One of the Government's core values is respect for the taxpayer's dollar. It is critical that PSOs operate as efficiently as possible, in order to ensure British Columbians are provided with effective services at the lowest cost possible. This requires constant focus on maintaining a cost-conscious and principled culture through the efficient delivery of services that stand the test of public scrutiny and help develop a prosperous economy in an environmentally sustainable manner. The foundation of this work is the Government's commitment to controlling spending and balancing the budget.

The Trust's mandate is established by the *Columbia Basin Trust Act* as follows:

The purpose of the corporation is to invest, spend and otherwise manage the regional allocation and the corporation's other assets, including any assets that may be transferred to it, for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the region including, without limitation, for

- (a) the social well-being of the residents of the region,
- (b) the preservation, protection and enhancement of the environment of the region,
- (c) the economic development of the region, and
- (d) any other prescribed purposes.

To achieve this mandate, the Province and the Trust have agreed that the Trust should take the following strategic actions:

- Develop and implement new initiatives in response to the 2014/15 community engagement process, and ensure these new initiatives are aligned with the renewed Columbia Basin Management Plan and implemented in an effective and efficient manner.
- Continue to engage with local government, First Nations, and the Province to ensure the Trust has the requisite balance of skills on the Board of Directors.

To achieve this, several actions as detailed in the 2014 TAP Transition Letter, are to continue to be implemented and refined, such as on-going orientation, the joint strategic engagement plan, and the evaluation plan. For detailed information about TAP directives, please refer to the following link, [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#).

In addition, it is expected that your organization will continue to be diligent in ensuring familiarity with and adherence to statutory obligations and policies that have broad application across the public sector. Please refer to the following link for a summary of these accountabilities, [PSO Accountability Summary](#).

The Government is committed to continuing to revitalize the relationship between Government and PSOs. This strong focus on increased two-way communication supports and ensures a common understanding of the Government's expectations. Timely communication of any issues which may affect the business of the Trust and/or the interests of Government is critical to building trust and the effective delivery of public services, including information on any risks to achieving financial forecasts and performance targets.

Each Board member is required to acknowledge the direction provided in the Mandate Letter by signing this letter. The Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization's website and a copy signed by all Board members provided to the ministry and made available to the public upon request.

I look forward to our regular meetings focusing on strategic priorities, performance against the TAP, key results and working together to protect the public interest at all times.

Sincerely,



Bill Bennett
Minister

Date: June 20, 2016

Attachment: Taxpayer Accountability Principles



Rick Jensen
Chair, Columbia Basin Trust

Date: _____



Laurie Page
Vice-Chair



Vicky Thomas
Board Member



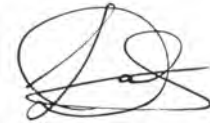
Wendy Booth
Board Member



Michael Delich
Board Member



Gord DeRosa
Board Member



John Dooley
Board Member



Loni Parker
Board Member



Jeannette Townsend
Board Member



Larry Binks
Board Member



Amed Naqvi
Board Member



Rhonda Ruston
Board Member

cc: Honourable Christy Clark
Premier

Mr. John Dyble
Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary

Ms. Kim Henderson
Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Elaine McKnight
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Energy and Mines

Ms. Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland
Associate Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Mr. Neil Muth
President and Chief Executive Officer
Columbia Basin Trust

B.C. Taxpayer Accountability Principles

Further information available at: <http://gov.bc.ca/crownaccountabilities>

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Cost Consciousness (Efficiency) | Strengthen cost management capabilities and foster a culture of cost-consciousness at all levels of public sector organizations. Provide public services and programs as efficiently and effectively as possible to “bend the cost curve” and support sustainable public policies and programs as a lasting legacy for generations to come. |
| 2 | Accountability | Transparently manage responsibilities according to a set of common public sector principles in the best interest of the citizens of the province. By enhancing organizational efficiency and effectiveness in the planning, reporting and decision making, public sector organizations will ensure actions are aligned with government’s strategic mandate. |
| 3 | Appropriate Compensation | Comply with a rigorous, standardized approach to performance management and employee compensation, which reflects appropriate compensation for work across the public sector that is consistent with government’s taxpayer accountability principles and respectful of the taxpayer. |
| 4 | Service | Maintain a clear focus on positive outcomes for citizens of British Columbia by delivering cost-efficient, effective, value-for-money public services and programs. |
| 5 | Respect | Engage in equitable, compassionate, respectful and effective communications that ensure all parties are properly informed or consulted on actions, decisions and public communications in a timely manner. Proactively collaborate in a spirit of partnership that respects the use of taxpayers’ monies. |
| 6 | Integrity | Make decisions and take actions that are transparent, ethical and free from conflict of interest. Require the establishment of a strong ethical code of conduct for all employees and executives. Serve the citizens of British Columbia by respecting the shared public trust and acting in accordance with the taxpayer accountability principles. |