

July 30, 2015

Honourable Peter Fassbender Minister of Community, Sport, Cultural Development and Minister Responsible for Translink Parliament Buildings Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

Congratulations on your new role. I am very excited about the opportunity you have to continue to execute on the priorities of our government as we serve the people of British Columbia.

Communities are the backbone of our province and the level of government closest to British Columbians. As a former Mayor, I know that you understand the important role local government plays in the lives of our citizens in ensuring we continue to have safe, secure and economically diverse communities in our province.

Metro Vancouver voters appreciated the opportunity to make their voices heard on those issues, and the issues surrounding Translink itself. As a result, I have decided to place responsibility for Translink with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development—as the issues surrounding Translink following the outcome of the plebiscite are now inextricably linked with taxation issues facing local governments in Metro Vancouver.

Questions surrounding taxation and the significant funds that will be required to pay for the transit improvements outlined in the Mayors Council vision for transit and transportation are best dealt with by looking at the issues facing communities as a whole.

As you know, the annual mandate letter you receive is designed to be an ongoing workplan for your ministry that is updated on an annual basis.

Your mandate for the following year is as follows:

- 1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.
- 2. Work with the Ministry of Natural Gas Development to ensure communities facing growth due to LNG development are provided support to manage and mitigate the impacts of significant economic development and population growth.

- 3. Develop and present legislation to the House to implement the commitment to limit local government election expenses by March 31, 2016.
- 4. Working with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, report out and implement the ministry's plan to grow BC's creative economy and creative workforce.
- 5. Review the recommendations made by Chris Trumpy to improve the operations of the office of the Auditor General for Local Government and provide options for reform.
- 6. Develop and present options to Cabinet on potential processes under which local governments could either amalgamate or integrate service delivery by June 30, 2016.
- 7. Assess and report to Cabinet on the economic impact resulting from the FIFA 2015 Women's World Cup in Vancouver and make recommendations on whether to financially support and pursue other similar events.
- 8. Work with the federal government to secure funding for British Columbia available under the Building Canada Communities Fund.
- 9. Work with your colleagues to ensure that the annual UBCM convention provides a comprehensive exchange of ideas with municipal partners.
- 10. Following the decision by the voters of Metro Vancouver on the transit plebiscite, consult with the Mayors' Council and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to improve transit in the region.

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

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

Yours truly,

Christy Clark

Premier of British Columbia