Tell Us Your Budget Priorities

What’s most important to you? What are your priorities if government had additional resources:

• Fund new programs and services?
• Reduce the debt?
• Cut personal income taxes?

The Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services – an all party committee of the Legislative Assembly – will hold province-wide consultations in September and October to seek the views of British Columbians.

YOU CAN PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK BY:

• Appearing at one of the scheduled public hearings. For locations please visit: www.leg.bc.ca/budgetconsultations
• Sending a written response by letter or email
• Submitting an audio or video file

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBMISSION (INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION) BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010 TO:
Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services
Room 224, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4 Canada
Phone: 1-877-428-8337 (toll-free)
Phone: 250-356-2933 (collect)
Fax: 250-356-8172
Email: financecommittee@leg.bc.ca

TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT BCBUDGET.CA

Budget Consultation
Fiscal and Economic Forecast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009/10</th>
<th>2010/11</th>
<th>2011/12</th>
<th>2012/13</th>
<th>2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available Revenues (5 millions)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committed Revenues (5 millions)</td>
<td>37,521</td>
<td>39,965</td>
<td>40,946</td>
<td>42,536</td>
<td>44,193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Updated Five Year Fiscal Plan (5 millions)</td>
<td>(1,779)</td>
<td>(1,380)</td>
<td>(810)</td>
<td>(130)</td>
<td>490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing Infrastructure Commitments (5 millions)</td>
<td>3,754</td>
<td>5,603</td>
<td>3,612</td>
<td>2,957</td>
<td>3,187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Growth</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Ratio</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
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Record funding is now being provided for health, education, child protection, daycare, income assistance, housing, public safety, seniors’ services, universities, colleges and other critical public services. In fact, 86% of all new spending is going towards health and education.

Building B.C. For Your Family

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Investing In Our Future

Everyone has different priorities in an open society like Canada, but most people would agree with record levels of construction on schools, hospitals, housing, roads, bridges and public transit across the province. Because of the positive partnership the provincial government has established with the federal government, today there are 850 projects throughout British Columbia generating an estimated 34,000 jobs.

Creating More Jobs

Higher productivity means higher paycheques, more jobs, increased investment and trade with international customers. It is one of the reasons there are over 400,000 more jobs in the province today than there were in 2001.

MORE TAKE-HOME PAY FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS

Real personal disposable income per capita (in 2002 dollars)

Source: Statistics Canada Provincial Economic Accounts (November, 2009); Statistics Canada July 1 population estimates (March, 2013)

Opening Canada’s Pacific Gateway

British Columbia has a strategic advantage as Canada’s only Pacific province. B.C. is Asia’s front door to the continent. By 2020, trade with Asia could create as many as 255,000 jobs.

Opportunities for expanding trade with Asia will require new investments and more jobs to build Canada’s Pacific Gateway. Tourism, digital media, life sciences, forestry, mining, energy, new building products, new green technologies and film create opportunities for B.C. to lead Canada into the 21st century.

Lowering Taxes

The government is committed to creating a competitive tax regime that will help shape B.C.’s future. Since 2001, personal income taxes have been reduced by at least 37%. An individual earning $50,000 a year pays $1,460 less in provincial income taxes than they did in 2001.

B.C. has the lowest personal provincial income taxes in Canada for individuals earning up to $118,000 annually. By 2012, British Columbia will have the lowest corporate income tax rate of the G7 countries. That will make traditional industries like forestry, mining, energy and agriculture more competitive. B.C.’s small business tax rate will be reduced to zero to encourage innovation and reward small business owners for their enormous contributions to our economy. Targeted tax credits for film, television, digital media and incentives for oil and gas, green technologies and clean energy projects continue to encourage B.C.’s newest industries.

Capitalizing On Our Clean Energy Advantage

B.C. is a clean-energy powerhouse. The Clean Energy Act ensures British Columbia will become electricity self-sufficient and that low rates are protected for B.C. ratepayers. The government is undertaking the largest investment ever in B.C.’s clean energy assets including the Site C Clean Energy Project that will create over 35,000 jobs and produce enough clean electricity to power more than 400,000 homes. Renewable power producers will have the tools to create jobs in every region.

To learn more, visit powerofbc.ca

Strengthening Partnerships

Forging new partnerships has made British Columbia stronger. The government is building a New Relationship with First Nations and working with local governments and the federal government to expand public transit, reduce crime and build new community infrastructure. Agreements with neighbouring provinces are allowing people to work and do business in more than one province. The government developed economic and educational ties across the Pacific and partnered with our American neighbours to protect the environment and the Pacific Ocean and build our regional economy.

Leading Climate Action

British Columbia has taken aggressive action to tackle climate change, including setting greenhouse gas reduction targets in law, implementing North America’s first revenue-neutral carbon levy, becoming the first Canadian partner in the Western Climate Initiative to design a cap and trade system, and working to become the first carbon-neutral government in North America.

Supporting Young Families

Starting this September, full-day kindergarten for five year-olds will help our children develop the skills they need for success in school and in life. It will also help working families with child care. The government has increased child care funding by $26 million over the next three years — and this year the total child care investment is more than $300 million. The child care subsidy program will also support more than 28,000 children each month. And every newborn in British Columbia now receives $1,000 invested towards their post-secondary education.

Living Within Our Means

British Columbia has earned top marks from the world’s leading credit-rating agencies for developing a fiscal framework that ensures B.C. returns to a balanced budget in 2013 while maintaining core services such as health care and education.

RETURNING TO BALANCED BUDGETS BY 2013/14

Spending on key services protected

Revenue dropped
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<tr>
<td>Senior Couple with $40,000 Income</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Individual with $20,000 Income</td>
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<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Individual with $30,000 Income</td>
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<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family of Four with $50,000 Income</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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More than 1.1 million more British Columbians received a paycheque increase between 2001 and 2012.


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