BRITISH COLUMBIA

November 24, 2026

Honourable Larry Neufeld
Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

British Columbians voted overwhelmingly for change. Families keep facing higher costs, the Province's deficits are at record levels, and investment has been leaving British Columbia for other jurisdictions when it should be staying here. People are waiting too long for the health care they need. Housing is out of reach for too many, especially young people. Our communities feel less safe. And we've lost sight of the basics in our schools and our democratic institutions.

We have been given a mandate to fix these problems, and as a Minister it is your responsibility to help deliver the change that British Columbians voted for. This is our moment to meet the challenge, make the hard decisions, and deliver the change British Columbians expect.

Our Priorities

Our plan is built on delivering on five goals. Each direction in this letter advances one or more of them, and I expect you to plan and report your priorities in these terms.

An Affordable BC: We will make British Columbians' hard work pay off, deliver tax relief, reduce costs, make housing more attainable, and restore fiscal discipline.

A Prosperous BC: We will supercharge our economy, restore investor confidence, develop our resources responsibly for the benefit of British Columbians, strengthen industries and trade, and create more good jobs.

A Healthy BC: We will protect universal health care, and improve access, treatment, recovery and support for those who need it, when they need it.

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A Safer BC: We will restore confidence in our communities, strengthen policing and justice, support victims, and prepare communities for wildfires, floods and other emergencies.

A Strong and Proud BC: We will build pride in our province and confidence in our shared future, strengthen education and families, protect freedoms and our environment, advance reconciliation and economic partnerships with First Nations, and stand up for British Columbia.

Together, these goals will guide the choices we make and the results we deliver. I expect you to set out the expected outcomes and benefits that British Columbians should see from our actions, when we will deliver, and how we will measure results.

How We Will Succeed

We will work with the professional public service, First Nations, local governments, businesses and communities to move from plans to implementation with urgency and purpose.

Note that restoring fiscal discipline is a central obligation of every minister.

We must confront the structural pressures in the budget, scrutinize programs and spending, eliminate duplication, measure value for money and make difficult choices where necessary. New spending must be justified by clear priorities and demonstrable outcomes. Every minister is accountable for helping return the Province to sustainable finances while protecting essential services and creating the conditions for growth.

Any new funding requests will be subject to thorough and rigorous review by the Treasury Board, with affordability for provincial taxpayers as a test, and must be delivered within the government's Fiscal Plan.

Many of our commitments need the work of more than one ministry. Where actions or authority to deliver on our mandate overlaps among ministries, you will work collaboratively with your ministerial colleagues to seek the best outcome.

Parliamentary Secretaries will support Ministers in their portfolio. Their roles and responsibilities will be set out by the Minister, consistent with the directions in this letter.

Your Priorities and Delivery Expectations

As Minister, you will play a central role in advancing our government's priorities and delivering the commitments we have made to British Columbians.

In addition to your statutory responsibilities, I expect you to focus on the following assignments:

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- Make B.C. a leading place for responsible energy investment and growth. Rebuild relationships with producers, midstream companies, LNG exporters and investors, including those that have chosen to invest elsewhere, and act with urgency to show that B.C. is open for business.
- Make B.C. the fastest place in North America to permit a mine and an LNG facility and report publicly on progress each year.
- Bring major mines, LNG facilities, pipelines and other projects from proposal to decision faster, with clear standards and dependable timelines.
- Create a competitive and stable fiscal and regulatory environment that improves access to B.C.'s petroleum, natural gas and mineral resources, gives British Columbians a fair return and keeps strong environmental protections in place, supported by the Minister of Finance.
- Establish B.C. as a major global supplier of low-emission natural gas and LNG. Double natural gas production by 2032 and triple it by 2035.
- Establish service-standard timelines for low-impact natural gas development and scale requirements to project footprints.
- Make B.C. gas work twice by supplying the condensate that expanded natural gas production creates to Canada's oil industry, generating additional Canadian energy and provincial revenue.
- Honour existing First Nations agreements on LNG, pipelines and transmission, and develop long-term plans with Treaty 8 nations so natural gas drilling can return to supply levels required by coastal LNG export facilities.
- Expand natural gas infrastructure, protect access to gas connections and heating choices, and advance Indigenous participation in energy projects.
- Strengthen mining investment and competitiveness through expanded exploration tax credits, Geoscience BC funding and critical mineral development.
- Bring headquarters and corporate activity home by encouraging global mining companies and exploration operations to locate in British Columbia.
- Add reliable, cost-effective power generation by getting more from existing generation assets and developing new natural gas, hydro, geothermal, wind, and solar resources so there is enough grid capacity to meet growing demand.
- Introduce an amendment to British Columbia's legislated energy objectives to make reliability an explicit provincial energy objective.
- Work with existing and prospective industrial customers to improve BC Hydro energy delivery timelines, meet their required in-service dates for grid connections and clear the backlog of connection requests.

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- Remove barriers to natural gas-fired electricity generation and industrial self-generation, ensuring all viable energy sources are considered, supported by the Minister of Environment.

Working with your Deputy Minister and Cabinet colleagues, you will establish clear plans, timelines, expected results, and measures of success, with a focus on early and meaningful progress. I expect you to report regularly on the progress you are making to deliver our priorities, the results achieved and the challenges that remain.

Our Responsibility

Public office carries a fundamental responsibility: to serve all British Columbians, whether or not they supported us, and to act in their best interests at all times. The public has placed its trust in us at a difficult time, and we must earn that trust every day through principled decisions, fiscal discipline and meaningful results.

Every minister has a responsibility to control spending, eliminate waste, exercise restraint and direct public resources where they deliver the greatest value. We must also challenge unnecessary regulation and honour our commitment to eliminate two existing regulatory provisions for every new one we introduce.

The challenges before us are significant, and the decisions ahead will not always be easy. Restoring fiscal responsibility will require difficult choices, the courage to confront longstanding problems and the discipline to put the province's long-term interests ahead of short-term considerations. We cannot continue to spend beyond our means or leave the consequences of today's decisions to future generations.

I look forward to working with you to deliver the commitments we made to British Columbians.

Sincerely,



Honourable Lorne Doerkson
Premier of British Columbia