



July 30, 2015

Honourable Mike Bernier
Minister of Education
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
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.

We have a unique opportunity in the province to build an education system that is second to none. With a long term labour agreement in place, we have the ability to work cooperatively with our partners in education, including the BC Teachers' Federation, to put the needs of students first and foremost.

This year will see a significant change in education in the province. A new curriculum, developed in partnership between the Ministry and BCTF, will be introduced in schools around the province. It will be your role to ensure that this new curriculum is implemented seamlessly across the province.

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:

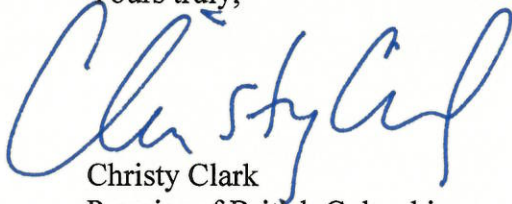
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.
2. Working with the BC Teachers' Federation and BC School Trustees Association, develop and present to Cabinet options on how to restructure and improve collective bargaining with BC's hard-working teachers.
3. Work with the BC Teachers' Federation to improve the quality of professional development for teachers in the province.

4. Work with the Ministry of Finance to implement the tax credits for parents to assist with back to school costs as committed in Strong Economy, Secure Tomorrow in Budget 2016/17.
5. Continue to work with the Ministries of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Advanced Education to successfully implement BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint that will provide BC students better prospects for long term job security in our growing economy.
6. Continue the educational reforms contained in the BC Education Plan including the development and implementation of the new K-9 curriculum and working with the BC Teachers Federation successfully develop the new grade 10-12 curriculum.
7. Work with the Ministry of International Trade and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism to ensure the historical wrongs education curriculum supplement is available to BC schools for the 2015/16 school year.
8. Working with the Ministry of Advanced Education to publicly provide an update to the International Education Strategy by March 31, 2016 highlighting progress made on increasing by 50 percent the number of international students studying in British Columbia and expanding the number of provincial offshore schools.
9. Work with the Ministries of Health and Children and Family Development to review and define Child and Youth Mental Health services in the province and make recommendations to Cabinet by June 30, 2016 on potential improvements
10. Continue to support our government's initiatives to erase bullying.
11. Continue to implement the work of the Innovations Partnership working group, a partnership between the government, BCTF, FISA, BCSSA, and BCPVPA to assist with education transformation in the province.
12. Continue to implement our government's seismic upgrade program for BC schools to ensure our educational facilities can protect those learning and working in the event of a major earthquake in our province.
13. In order to ensure as much taxpayer resources find their way into BC classrooms, work with BC School Districts to find ways of minimizing overheads and administrative spending by finding efficiencies through shared services.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christy Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christy" and the last name "Clark" clearly legible.

Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia