



February 11, 2020

Honourable Michelle Mungall  
Minister of Jobs, Economic Development  
and Competitiveness  
Room 301, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Mungall:

Congratulations on your new appointment as Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness.

British Columbians expect their government to work for ordinary people, not just those at the top. It is your job to deliver that leadership in your ministry.

Our government made three key commitments to British Columbians.

Our first commitment is to make life more affordable. Too many families were left behind for too long by the previous government. They are counting on you to keep working to make their lives easier.

Our second commitment is to deliver the services that people count on. We've started making progress. Together, we're ensuring children are getting access to the quality public education they need to succeed, that families are getting timely medical attention, and that our senior citizens are able to live their final years with dignity. These and other government services touch the lives of British Columbians every day. It is your job as Minister to work within your budget to deliver quality services that are available and effective.

Our third key commitment is to build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone across B.C., not just the wealthy and the well-connected. Together, we are tackling poverty and inequality, creating good-paying jobs in every corner of the province, and ensuring people from every background have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

These three commitments along with your specific ministerial objectives will guide your work and shape your priorities from day to day. I expect you to work with the skilled professionals in the public service to deliver on this mandate.

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Our Confidence and Supply Agreement with the B.C. Green caucus is critical to the success of our government. Accordingly, the principles of “good faith and no surprises” set out in that document should also guide your work going forward.

As Minister, you are responsible for ensuring signatories of the Confidence and Supply Agreement are appropriately consulted on major policy issues, budgets, legislation and other matters as outlined in our agreement. This consultation should be coordinated through the Confidence and Supply Agreement Secretariat in the Premier’s Office. The Secretariat is charged with ensuring that signatories are provided access to key documents and officials as set out in the agreement. This consultation and information sharing will occur in accordance with protocols established jointly by government and the signatories of the Confidence and Supply Agreement, and in accordance with relevant legislation.

As part of our commitment to true, lasting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia, our government passed legislation that will harmonize the province’s laws with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As Minister, you are responsible for reviewing policies, programs, and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the Declaration into action in British Columbia.

Our government is also committed to real action on climate change, as outlined in our CleanBC plan. CleanBC is about putting our province on the path to a cleaner, better future – with a low-carbon economy that creates opportunities for all while protecting our clean air, land and water. As Minister, you are responsible for ensuring the actions and goals of this cross-government plan are reflected and implemented in your ministerial work.

As Minister, I expect you to take a central role in championing efforts to promote quality economic growth, support business competitiveness and increase the standard of living for British Columbians in all major sectors and in all regions of our province.

To that end, in your role as Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness I expect that you will make substantive progress on the following priorities:

- Provide Cabinet leadership for cross-government initiatives that support competitiveness across all sectors of B.C.’s economy.
- Engage with industry associations and major sectors on government’s approach to quality economic growth that creates benefits for people.
- Support the future of our made-in-B.C. tech sector through cluster initiatives, anchoring of B.C.-developed intellectual property, incubating the development and growth of B.C. agritech, cleantech, life sciences and other technologies and building the economic linkages of B.C.’s tech companies as suppliers across our economy.
- Ensure that the benefits of technology and innovation are felt around the province by working with rural and northern communities and under-represented groups to make strategic investments that support innovation and job growth.

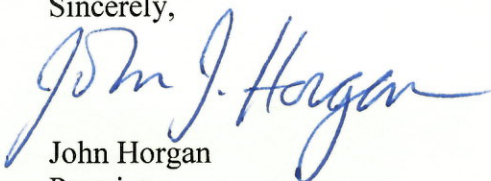


- Ensure that your ministry makes timely progress on the implementation of the *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, both in identifying priority legislative areas for inclusion in the action plan, and in ensuring that future ministry actions are consistent with the principles set out in the Act.
- Champion quality economic growth across all sectors of B.C.'s economy, with a focus on those that make the greatest contribution to B.C.'s standard of living, fit within our CleanBC plan, and provide good-paying jobs broadly distributed across B.C.'s regions.
- Implement as appropriate, the findings from the upcoming reports of the Food Security Task Force and Emerging Economy Task Force where these contribute to increasing B.C.'s standard of living.
- Establish a new international engagement framework for B.C.'s trade and investment representatives in Asia, Europe and the United States, configuring their product promotion and investment attraction services to contribute to quality economic growth, distributed across all regions of B.C.
- Work with the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development to advocate for a fair deal for B.C. in softwood lumber negotiations with the United States, and to continue efforts to strengthen international markets for B.C. forest products.
- Partner with your Cabinet colleagues and the business community on an international brand strategy that capitalizes on the low carbon footprint of B.C.'s products and services, including natural resources, clean technology and value-added goods, demonstrating how sourcing B.C. products is both climate-positive and cost competitive.
- Review B.C. immigration policy and programs with a focus on strengthening the economic success pathways for newcomers, including through continued work with the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training to improve credential assessments.

All members of Cabinet are expected to review, understand and act according to the Members' Conflict of Interest Act and to conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. Remember, as a minister of the Crown, the way you conduct yourself will reflect not only on yourself, but on your Cabinet colleagues and our government as a whole.

I look forward to working with you in the coming weeks and months ahead. It will take dedication, hard work, and a real commitment to working for people to make it happen, but I know you're up to the challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John Horgan  
Premier