



February 11, 2020

Honourable Bruce Ralston
Minister of Energy, Mines and
Petroleum Resources
Room 138, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Ralston:

Congratulations on your new appointment as Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

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.

.../2

**Office of the
Premier**

Web Site:
www.gov.bc.ca

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

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 you know, mining and energy development are major contributors to British Columbia’s economy, and as Minister you will have a key role in championing quality economic growth across all regions of our province.

To that end, in your role as Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources I expect that you will make substantive progress on the following priorities:

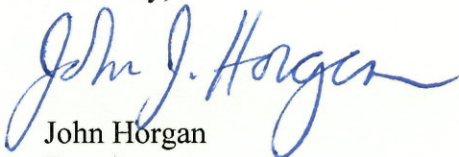
- Work with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and with all your Cabinet colleagues to advance programs under CleanBC that will transform our economy by reducing greenhouse gas emissions to meet the province’s climate commitments, while supporting affordability for people.
- Work with your colleagues on the Environment and Land Use Committee on regulatory efficiency initiatives, with a near-term emphasis on expedited permit processing and reconciliation initiatives in the mining sector.
- Provide oversight as B.C. Hydro completes the construction of the Site C project.
- Complete Phase 2 of the B.C. Hydro review, and implement programming that will drive innovation, reduce GHG emissions, support energy affordability, deliver energy efficiency and conservation programs, generate new energy responsibly and sustainably, and support quality economic growth and good jobs across British Columbia.

- Collaborate with the Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness to further connect the technology and innovation sector with the mining, energy and petroleum sectors and showcase made-in-B.C. technologies that are contributing to industrial competitiveness or helping to reduce GHG emissions.
- Invest in promising new energy technologies, clean technology, and climate change solutions through the Innovative Clean Energy program.
- 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.
- 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.
- Oversee the implementation of the LNG Canada project.
- Continue to ensure British Columbians benefit from liquefied natural gas projects by requiring proposals to meet the following four conditions: (1) Proposals must include express guarantees of jobs and training opportunities for British Columbians; (2) Proposals must provide a fair return for our resource; (3) Proposals must respect and make partners of First Nations; and (4) Proposals must protect our air, land and water, including living up to our climate commitments.

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 J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

John Horgan
Premier