

The background of the page is a blue-tinted photograph of a diverse group of people. In the foreground, an older man with white hair is smiling and looking towards a young girl. Other children and adults are visible in the background, some looking towards the camera and others interacting. The overall mood is positive and community-oriented.

# WORKING FOR YOU

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OUR COMMITMENTS TO  
BUILD A BETTER BC

2017 BC NDP PLATFORM

# WORKING FOR YOU



OUR COMMITMENTS TO  
BUILD A BETTER BC

## A LETTER FROM JOHN HORGAN

**On May 9, the choice couldn't be more clear. Four more years of Christy Clark working for her rich friends and donors at the top, or a new BC NDP government working for you.**



I believe it's time to build a better BC.

My wife Ellie and I raised two great kids in Langford, a growing city just outside our province's capital.

People in my community are a lot like people in every corner of our beautiful province. Like me, they love the beauty of British Columbia and our clean air and water.

They work hard so they can get a little bit ahead. They want their kids to have better opportunities than they did. And they want to know the services people count on will be there when they need them, where they need them.

These are my priorities. Making life more affordable, better services, and good jobs.

In this election, Christy Clark is running to keep her rich donors and BC Liberal insiders first, while she leaves you behind.

I'm running to be Premier because I believe it's time your government works for you.

Join me. It's time to build a better BC for all of us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive.



## MAKING YOUR LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE



For 16 years, the BC Liberals have nickel and dimed hard working British Columbians while giving billions in tax cuts to the richest British Columbians. They increased Hydro rates, ICBC premiums and ferry fares. They tripled tuition fees and doubled MSP fees. They put steep tolls on key commuter bridges, where transit options don't exist. And did nothing while the price of housing and rent went through the roof.

It's time for you to get a break — a break you won't get from phony BC Liberal promises and their choices.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will work for you and take real action to make your life more affordable.

### **We will:**

- › Get rid of Medical Services Plan fees, saving families as much as \$1,800 a year.
- › Build 114,000 rental and co-op homes, and provide renters an annual rental home credit of \$400.
- › Bring in \$10 a day childcare.
- › Eliminate tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges.
- › Eliminate interest on student loans and provide students a \$1,000 completion grant.
- › Freeze BC Hydro rates and stop Christy Clark's 42% increase in ICBC rates.
- › Roll back ferry fares on small routes by 15%, freeze fares on major routes, and return the 100% seniors' weekday discount.



**JOHN MEETS WITH SFU STUDENTS:**

Our plan will eliminate interest on student loans and provide students a \$1,000 completion grant

**John Horgan and the BC NDP will work for you and take real action to make your life more affordable.**

## IMPROVING THE SERVICES YOU COUNT ON

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to hurt the services you count on. They wasted millions in the courts fighting against teachers and hurting our kids' education. They caused long wait times for urgent healthcare and have left seniors in care going a week at a time without a bath.

These are Christy Clark's choices. On the services that matter, she's not working for you.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will work hard to improve the services you count on. We'll deliver quality healthcare where you need it, when you need it. And we'll fix our education system, investing in student success from kindergarten to college and university.



**Fix Our Schools:**  
We'll properly fund  
classrooms and school  
equipment

### **We will:**

- › Properly fund classrooms and school equipment, so parents don't have to fundraise for classroom essentials.
- › Replace portables with real classrooms and make our schools earthquake safe.
- › Expand BC's apprenticeship and trades training programs.
- › Increase access to doctors, nurses and health practitioners in your community.
- › Relieve the pressure on emergency rooms and reduce wait times.
- › Provide faster access to mental health services, when and where people need it.
- › Increase the time home care workers can spend with seniors, so seniors can stay in their own homes longer.

### **We will also:**

- › Tackle the backlogs in our courts and invest in programs to end gang violence.
- › Develop and implement a comprehensive poverty reduction plan.
- › Restore our parks, hire more park rangers and conservation officers, and build new campsites.

## GOOD JOBS AND A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

For Christy Clark, the economy is about helping her rich friends and donors. And the reality for most British Columbians is that the economy isn't working for them.

Under Christy Clark, unemployment is up in every region outside the lower mainland and the Island. People who are working are working harder and longer, and not getting ahead. More and more jobs are part time, and more and more people are working two jobs to make ends meet.

Where industries are succeeding, it's in spite of Christy Clark, not because of her. She bet everything on natural gas prices and left the rest of BC's economy without support. Resource communities and families have paid the price. That's got to change.

**So too does our relationship with First Nations. We will make reconciliation with First Nations a priority, creating certainty and opportunity for First Nations and for our economy as a whole.**



**POWELL RIVER:**  
BC NDP Leader  
John Horgan visits  
workers at Catalyst Paper

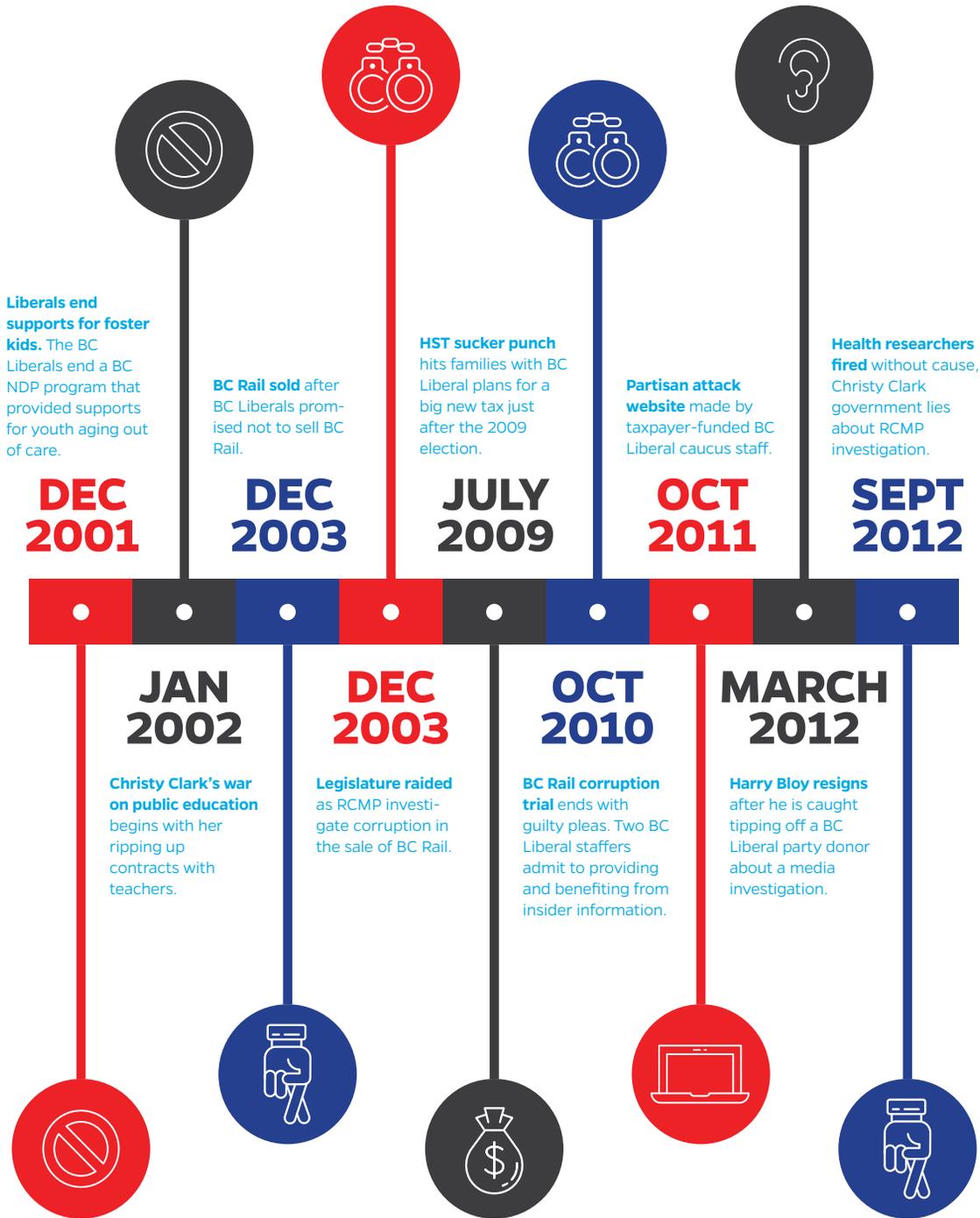
We'll work to create good jobs and build a sustainable economy in every sector of our economy and in every corner of BC.

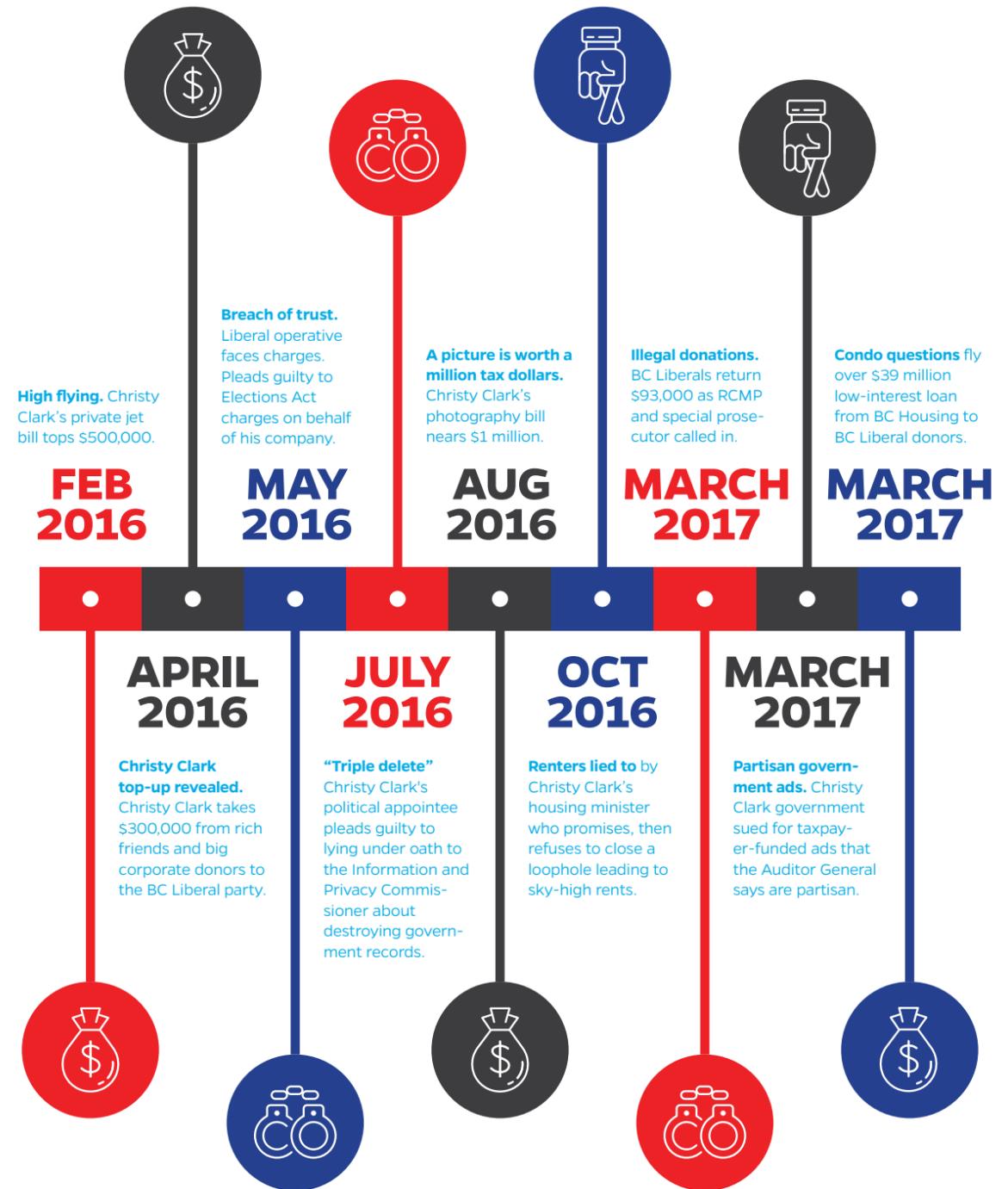
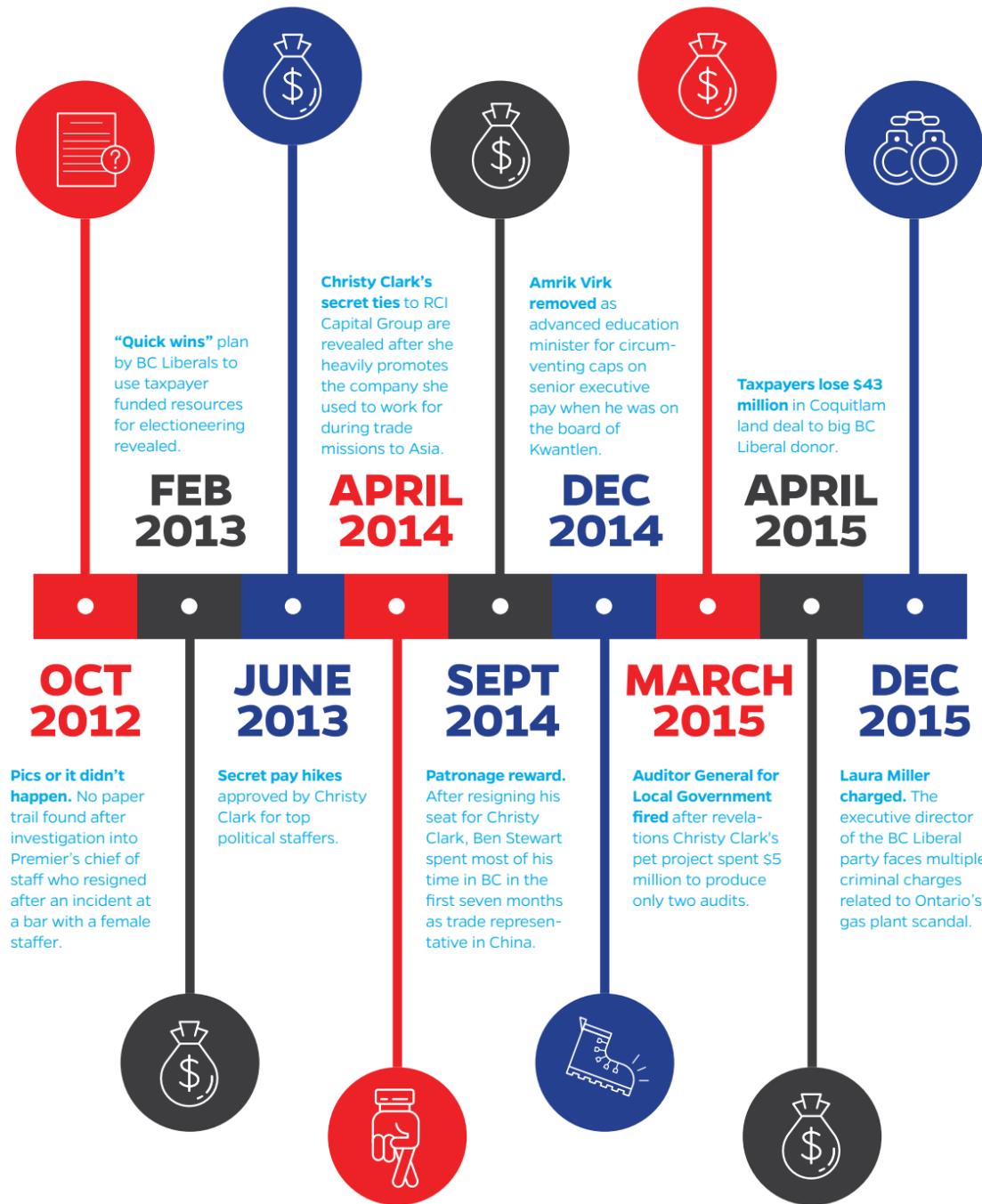
### **We will:**

- › Create 96,000 construction jobs by building schools, hospitals, roads and rapid transit over the next five years.
- › Build, directly and through partnerships, 114,000 rental, social and co-op homes over 10 years using BC wood products as building materials.
- › Increase minimum wage to \$15 and bring in \$10 a day childcare.
- › Revitalize BC's forest industry and make BC a world leader in engineered wood products.
- › Spark innovation and growth in BC's tech sector right across the province, by improving investment tax credits, hiring local software developers, and re-establishing the Innovative Clean Energy program cut by the BC Liberals.
- › We'll make BC a leader on climate action. We'll reduce our carbon footprint with energy efficiency retrofits to public buildings and residential homes, and create good jobs that last in every community.
- › Support BC small business with a half-point cut to the small business tax rate.
- › We'll also invest in traditional sectors of our economy and launch a major jobs initiative in clean energy and energy efficiency to reduce your heating bills.

**We'll make BC a leader in climate action.**

# SIXTEEN YEARS OF LIBERAL SCANDAL AND NEGLECT





# MAKING YOUR LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE



For 16 years, the BC Liberals have nickel-and-dimed hard working British Columbians while giving billions in tax cuts to the richest British Columbians. They increased Hydro rates, ICBC premiums and ferry fares. They tripled tuition fees and doubled MSP fees. They put steep tolls on key commuter bridges and did nothing while the price of housing and rent went through the roof.

It's time for you to get a break—and you won't get it from Christy Clark.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will work for you and take real action to make your life more affordable.

## MAKING HOMES MORE AFFORDABLE



Whether you rent or own your own home, the cost of housing throughout BC has skyrocketed, and wages haven't kept up.

For renters, the BC Liberals chose to side with unscrupulous landlords. They neglected rules designed to protect tenants and starved the tenancy branch of resources.

Developers gave more than \$10 million to Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, and the dream of owning a home shot out of reach for many British Columbians. Not only have the BC Liberals ignored this issue but have called concerned families “people who get up and whine everyday.”

Nowhere more than on housing have the BC Liberals made it clear they are working for their rich friends and donors and not for you.

As the election approached, the BC Liberals' phony promise to help first-time home buyers put people further in debt, put housing prices further

out of reach and put more money in developers' pockets.

The BC Liberals didn't close the loophole they created to allow landlords to dodge controls on rents, either through fixed-term leases or through renovictions.

“

**If you look at the mean cost of housing across British Columbia or the mean of the Lower Mainland... it's actually pretty reasonable.”**

**—Rich Coleman,  
Hansard, May 14, 2015**

“

**I guess some people just have to get up and whine everyday. I don't know. You just have to look at the glass is half full not half empty, right?”**

**—Rich Coleman,  
CKNW, May 26, 2016**

These failures on housing aren't just impacting renters and new home buyers, they are also hurting BC's ability to attract and retain skilled workers, everywhere from the technology sector to construction workers to the tourism sector. Fixing the housing crisis is important for affordability and our economy.

For John Horgan and the BC NDP, a better BC means that decent housing is available and affordable. It means that renters have security where they live and that young families have real prospects of affording their first home.

## **We will take major steps to make housing more affordable with a comprehensive ten-year plan:**

- › Through partnerships, we will build 114,000 new rental, social and co-op, and owner-purchase housing units.
- › We will make sure renters are treated fairly and both renters and landlords understand and uphold their rights and responsibilities.
- › We will crack down on the cheaters who are distorting BC's housing market.

## **10-year Action Plan for Housing Affordability**

### **1. Fixing the Housing Shortage: Building 114,000 Homes**

Anyone trying to rent or buy a home in the past ten years knows there's a drastic shortage of decent, affordable housing in BC. Increasing the supply of housing is the best way to make housing more affordable, and to keep it affordable.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will fix the shortage. We will work with all levels of government, First Nations and the not-for-profit and private sectors, to secure land and build needed housing.

- › We will build 114,000 affordable rental, non profit, co-op and owner-purchase housing units through partnerships over ten years. These homes will be a mix of housing for students, singles, seniors, and families and will range from supported social housing to quality, market rental housing.
- › In urban and suburban centers, we'll build near transit hubs. And, instead of the BC Liberals' land giveaways to their developer friends, we'll use public land to build housing that British Columbians can afford.
- › We'll get new student housing built by removing unnecessary rules that prevent universities and colleges from building affordable student housing.

This major housing initiative will create thousands of stable, long-term jobs for BC's construction workers and home builders, and thousands of secure homes for British Columbians.

Wherever possible, we will construct all types of housing from innovative BC manufactured wood products, creating new markets for BC wood products and new jobs in BC's forest industry-based communities.

## **2. Making Renting Better and More Secure**

Few people in the housing market have been treated more unfairly by Christy Clark and her BC Liberals than renters. From impossible-to-find rental housing, to landlords taking advantage of loopholes to increase rents, to sudden renovations and cuts to the tenancy branch that mean complaints are harder to follow up on—renters have suffered through it all.

We'll take immediate action to make renting more affordable, more fair and more stable.

- ▶ We will provide a refundable renter's rebate of \$400 dollars per rental household in BC each year. Homeowners get a break on their property taxes each year; renters deserve a break too, especially with the skyrocketing rents we see today.
- ▶ We will close the BC Liberals' "fixed term lease" loophole and ensure controls on rent increases are enforced.
- ▶ We will pass legislation requiring fair treatment during renovations and demolitions of rental properties.

We will also tighten the rules that protect good landlords and tenants, and provide the necessary resources for the Residential Tenancy Branch to do its job and resolve disputes fairly and in a timely way. And, we will provide local governments the tools they are asking for to zone areas for rental housing, and tax short-stay home rentals that take properties out of the rental pool.

With federal government funding for co-op housing expiring, we won't

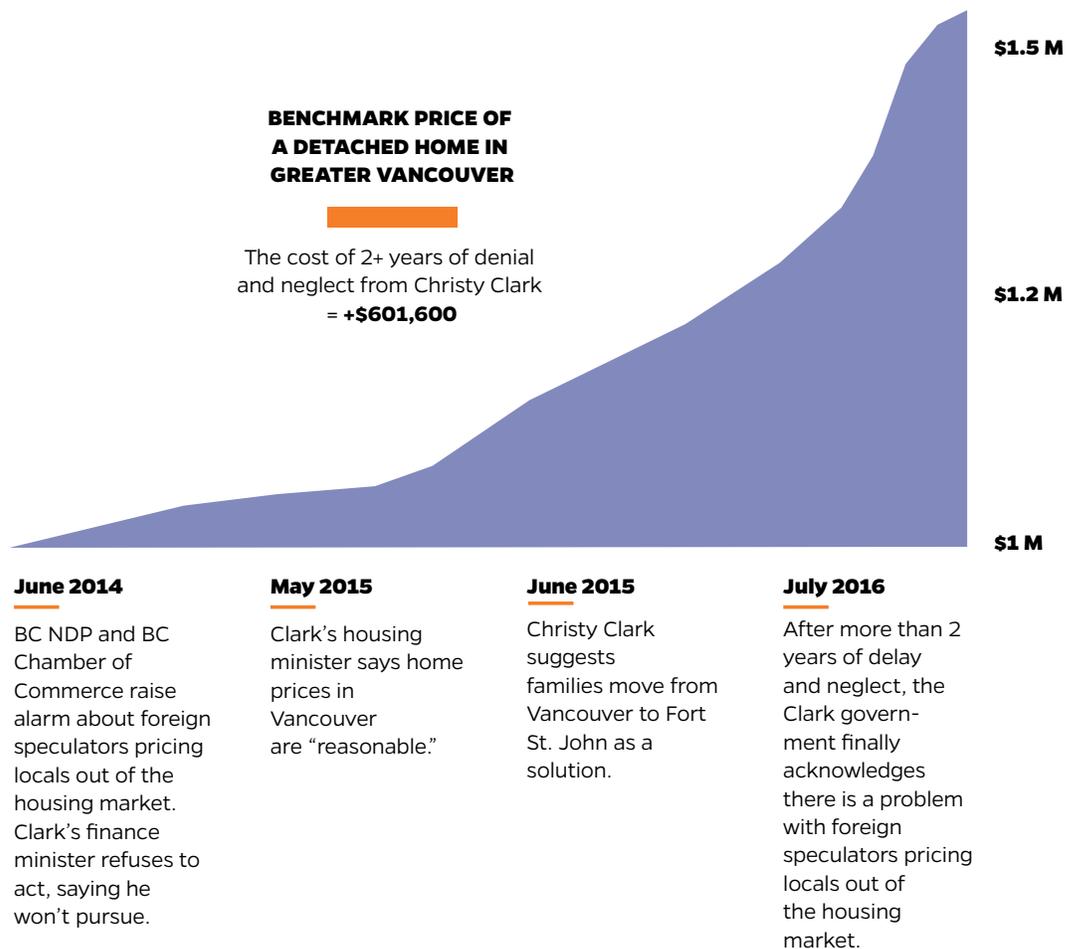
leave people in the lurch. We will reinvest in and support co-op housing.

Our better BC includes fair protection for renters and more quality rental housing.

### 3. Stopping the Cheaters

As property prices have skyrocketed out of reach for young British Columbians and low and middle-income families, speculators have been making millions. They've also been dodging the property transfer taxes that hard working British Columbians have to pay.

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals stood by and did nothing until it was too late. The limited measures they finally took did little to help and ended up hurting permanent residents trying to make a life here.



John Horgan's NDP will make housing more affordable by ending loopholes that help speculators drive up prices and by ensuring speculators pay their fair share of taxes.

- ▶ We'll close the loopholes that let speculators dodge taxes and hide their identities and we'll require them to pay their fair share of tax on their empty houses through a yearly two per cent absentee speculators' tax.
- ▶ We'll direct the revenue from the absentee speculators' tax into a Housing Affordability Fund. This fund will support housing affordability initiatives for British Columbians.
- ▶ We will also establish a multi-agency task force to fight tax fraud and money laundering in the BC real estate marketplace.

Our plan on housing makes British Columbians the priority. On housing, Christy Clark has been working for her rich donors. We'll be working for you.

### **CHRISTY CLARK RAKING IN THE CASH FROM DEVELOPERS**

Since Christy Clark became Premier in 2011, real estate developers have donated over \$10 million dollars to the BC Liberals.

Bob Rennie, the condo king and chief fundraiser for the BC Liberals, has donated \$356,250.

The top three developer donors are Peter Wall, Peter Redekop and Rick Ilich of Townline Homes, who gave a combined \$2,329,766 to the BC Liberals.

## **RENTAL HOUSING CRISIS**

According to the latest vacancy report from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, vacancy rates are less than one per cent in Vancouver, Victoria and Kelowna. (CMHC Rental Market Report, BC Highlights, 2016.

BC's rental laws have loopholes that allow some landlords to increase rent on their tenants far beyond what's allowed by the annual cap.



**“I find it shocking and outrageous. When does this stop? If it’s 27 per cent — what’s it next year and the year after? How can I live here and continue to work here, in a community I love? I’ve been in the West End for all my adult life, this is where I live. If I have to move out of the community, I can’t work in the community.”**

**—Jimmy Sigmund,  
Metro News, March 12, 2017**



## **\$10 A DAY CHILDCARE**



“

What we see is too few spaces for the majority of parents that are working today, and too few spaces that cost too much and are unaffordable for families.”

—Lynell Anderson, family policy researcher

[www.cbc.ca/news/canada/](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/)

[british-columbia/10-per-day-child-care-report-1.3942006](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/10-per-day-child-care-report-1.3942006)

Quality, affordable childcare will help parents get back to work, strengthen our economy and improve the lives of BC families. But Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have consistently chosen tax cuts for millionaires over affordable childcare, even when the federal government has offered support.

As a result, the cost of childcare, already unaffordable for too many, has gone up 35 per cent since 2007, while British Columbia has had the slowest wage growth in the country. A lack of spaces makes finding childcare under the BC Liberals difficult, if not impossible.

Recent economic studies couldn't be more clear, concluding that affordable, accessible childcare generates significant economic activity.

It's time to build a better BC, with affordable childcare.

The BC NDP endorses the work of The Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC and the Early Childhood Educators of BC. The \$10 a day plan will pay for itself over time by empowering parents with the choice to continue their careers, boosting our economy.

### **CHILDCARE, AN ECONOMIC BOOST FOR BC**

According to the Centre for Spatial Economics, an independent research firm, the \$10 a day plan would create a two per cent - or \$5.79 billion - increase to provincial GDP by the time it is fully implemented. This increase is more than three times what it will cost the BC government to implement the plan. Even three years out, in 2020, the plan would bring in \$112 million more than it would cost..

“Increased employment on full implementation is in the range of 2.8 per cent, or 69,100 net new FTE jobs, which is an employment multiplier of 36.4 jobs per million dollars of spending.” (Centre for Spatial Economics)

**Affordable:** The \$10 a day plan will ensure no parent is shut out of work because of the high cost of childcare by offering full-day care for \$10 and part-time care for \$7 a day, with no fee for families with annual incomes below \$40,000 a year.

This program will focus on children under the age of two first, before gradually expanding to cover other pre-kindergarten children.

**Accessible:** The \$10 a day plan will build a child care system that provides safe care for every child whose family wants or needs it.

All children, including those needing extra support to meet their needs, will be welcome.

Licensed family homes and centres will continue to offer a range of programs that reflect the diversity of BC communities. Existing childcare services will be invited into the new system. The plan offers choices for families to secure the type of childcare that works for them.

**Quality:** The quality of the system depends on Early Childhood Educators. They must be well-educated, respected and fairly-compensated. The \$10 a day plan invests in the Early Childhood Educator workforce through training, education and fair wages.

We will work with the federal government, municipalities, businesses, First Nations and others as partners in building and delivering this ambitious and important service for families.



**It's time families have an affordable universal child care program in BC and we're going to work toward a \$10 a day program. It's the right thing to do for our kids, for working families and for our economy."**

**—John Horgan**

## **CHRISTY CLARK'S FAILURE TO ADDRESS AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE LEAVING FAMILIES BEHIND**

The median fee paid by parents of toddlers in Vancouver is \$1,325 a month (CCPA, December 2016).

Since 2007, child care costs have risen 35 per cent while incomes increased only 10 per cent (First Call, 2016 BC Child Poverty Report Card).

Canada ranks last among developed countries for child care spending, and BC is worse than the Canadian average for high fees, few regulated spaces, and low government funding (Vancouver Sun, March 27, 2017)

## **GETTING RID OF MSP FEES**

The BC Liberals doubled the MSP fees that hard working British Columbians pay, costing most families an extra \$900 a year. Meanwhile, millionaires got major tax breaks.

An expensive BC Liberal ad campaign, paid for with your tax dollars, is now making the phony promise that the BC Liberals will reverse some of their massive increases. But, you can be sure they'll make up any lost revenue with higher taxes and fees on families like yours, as they always have.

The BC NDP has opposed these unfair BC Liberal MSP increases year after year and has been clear that it is families like yours that deserve a break.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will eliminate MSP fees and make sure low and middle-income families come out ahead.

We will go ahead with the 2017 Budget's 50 per cent reduction and

completely eliminate the fee within four years, saving families as much as \$1,800 a year.

A non-partisan MSP Elimination Panel will advise on how to protect health care funding, while phasing out this unfair flat tax. The panel will be required to ensure low and middle-income families all come out ahead.

When it comes to MSP fees, Christy Clark is only working for her rich friends and donors. John Horgan and the BC NDP are working for you.

### **CHRISTY CLARK HAS DOUBLED YOUR MSP FEES**

Since 2001, Christy Clark's government has doubled your MSP premiums.

MSP for an average family has now reached \$1,800 per year.

Just last year, Christy Clark hiked MSP fees again by \$72 per family.



**After years of making British Columbians pay more through this unfair tax, why would anyone believe Christy Clark now when she suddenly says she cares, right before an election? British Columbians have a clear choice. My plan will get rid of the unfair and inefficient MSP tax on families, entirely.”**

**—John Horgan**

## **MAKING EDUCATION AND TRAINING MORE AFFORDABLE**

The BC Liberals have tripled tuition fees and dramatically increased student debt.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe that getting the skills you need shouldn't be a lifelong debt sentence. After years of Christy Clark making it harder to get education and skills training, we'll make sure low and middle-income students have help getting the education they need to succeed.

We'll also take steps to help former students saddled with massive debt because of the BC Liberals' tuition fee increases, as they work to pay down their debt and get a good start in life.

- › We will make life more affordable for people just starting their careers by making all current and future BC student loans interest free.
- › We will provide a \$1,000 completion grant for graduates of college, university and skilled trades programs to help pay down debt when they finish their programs.
- › We will eliminate fees for Adult Basic Education and ESL and keep a cap on tuition fees at colleges and universities.
- › We will introduce a new graduate student scholarship fund to encourage excellence in BC's graduate programs.

### **STUDENT DEBT SOARS UNDER CHRISTY CLARK**

BC's average student debt load is the highest in Canada at \$35,000. The national average is \$27,000. (Bank of Montreal annual student survey).

Post-secondary tuition fees increased more in BC than in any other province since 2001 (Generation Squeeze, 2017).

“When we graduate with this massive amount of debt, it keeps us from starting our own businesses, buying houses, starting families, being active and engaged citizens in the economy,”

—Katie Marocchi, chairperson of the BC chapter of the Canadian Federation of Students (Business in Vancouver, 2013).

## **FAIR WAGES FOR HARD WORK**



As the cost of living in BC skyrocketed, Christy Clark let BC’s minimum wage fall behind. Today, a person working full time in a minimum wage job simply can’t make ends meet.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe that if you are working full-time hours, you shouldn’t have to take a second job just to put food on your table. Unfortunately, with the high cost of living, minimum wage workers are having to do just that, especially those with families to support.

And while BC falls behind, other jurisdictions are showing the way. Alberta has recently committed to a \$15/hour minimum wage, In Seattle, where the \$15/hour minimum is the law, restaurants are thriving and the economy has strengthened. That’s because people earning minimum wage are spending it on essentials, putting money right back into their local economy.

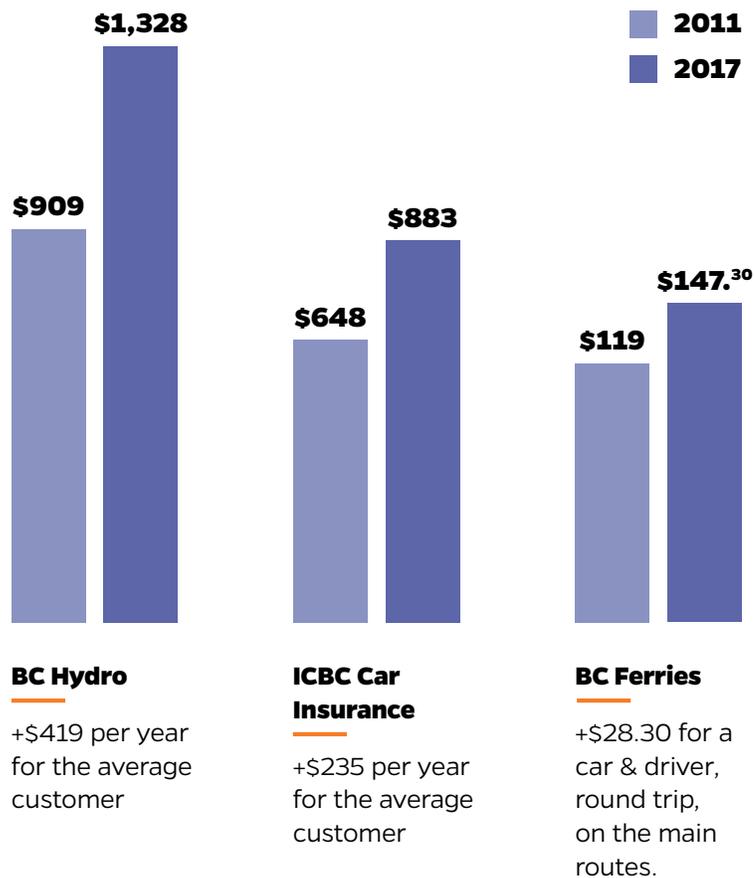
John Horgan and the BC NDP will bring in a \$15/hour minimum wage by 2021, with increases each year. Phasing in the increases will allow businesses to adjust, ensuring that jobs aren’t at risk and that employment in minimum wage sectors actually increases, as has been the case in Seattle. Once we reach \$15/hour, we will index the minimum wage to inflation to ensure that we don’t fall behind.

## MAKING CROWN CORPORATIONS AND BC FERRIES WORK FOR YOU

While the BC Liberals were making sure the richest British Columbians were benefiting from billion dollar tax breaks, they were also busy making you pay for it. This was especially true with BC Hydro and ICBC.

The BC Liberals charged you more for Hydro and ICBC, then took “dividends” from these Crowns to pay for their tax cuts for the richest British Columbians. John Horgan and the BC NDP will make BC’s Crown Corporations and BC Ferries work for you.

### Christy Clark’s Fee Hikes since 2011



- › We will freeze BC Hydro rates.
- › We will stop Christy Clark's 42 per cent increase on ICBC rates.
- › We will roll back ferry fares on small routes by 15 per cent, freeze fares on major routes, and restore the 100 per cent seniors weekday discount.

BC Hydro, ICBC and BC Ferries will all be required to conduct comprehensive operating reviews to look for inefficiencies, fiscal mismanagement, and cost savings that don't impact services. Every dollar saved will be used to keep rates and fees down. We need to see the books to understand the full scale of Christy Clark's mismanagement. Until then, we need to hit pause on making you pay for BC Liberal choices.

## **ELIMINATING UNFAIR BRIDGE TOLLS**



When Christy Clark and the BC Liberals put tolls on the Port Mann Bridge, costing commuters more than \$1,200 a year, she made it clear she's not working for people who have no other option than to drive to work.

Worse, the BC Liberals ignored all the evidence that many people would change their routes to avoid paying the toll, even if it meant driving a little further. As a result, the Port Mann Bridge is underused, losing money, and New Westminster traffic has reached dangerous levels. The same is true for the Golden Ears Bridge. Instead of getting people out of their cars, tolls are making them drive farther and longer.

As the BC Liberals opened other expensive road projects, like the Sea to Sky highway, without tolls, they again made it clear who they are working for and that paying for roads and bridges under the BC Liberals wasn't going to be fair for hard working families.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will eliminate tolls on the Port Mann and the Golden Ears bridges.

Getting rid of tolls will improve use of these major bridges, reduce congestion in other areas and help many commuters get to and from work

faster and safer. We will work with mayors to develop lasting, effective and fair solutions to Metro Vancouver's transportation needs that increase the use of public transit, and reduce vehicle trips overall.

## **CLIMATE ACTION REBATE CHEQUES**



John Horgan and the BC NDP are committed to being leaders in addressing climate change. We understand that a sustainable, clean growth economy is essential to creating good jobs and growing the economy, while also reducing carbon pollution and protecting the environment.

We also understand that, while families are struggling to get ahead, carbon pricing doesn't need to make your life more expensive.

That is why John Horgan and the BC NDP will implement a comprehensive climate action plan that provides a pathway for BC to prosper economically while significantly reducing our carbon pollution and protecting BC families' budgets.

John Horgan's plan will get the province back on track to meet our climate targets, stimulate innovation, create jobs, protect BC businesses, support rural communities, and use new carbon tax revenues to put more money back in the pockets of low and middle-income families.

When Gordon Campbell and the BC Liberals brought in their carbon tax, they said it was revenue neutral. But it definitely isn't for low and middle-income families, who end up paying more, while the wealthiest British Columbians enjoy big tax breaks.

Every time they took action on climate, the BC Liberals showed they were working for their rich friends at the top, not for you and your family.

Carbon taxes are meant to encourage people and industry to make choices that have a lower impact on our climate. They aren't meant to make life harder for families like yours.

That's why the BC NDP is planning, in advance, to ensure that our climate action plan will meet the federal government's new carbon price

mandate, and that people like you will be better off than they have been under Christy Clark.

- When the price goes up to match the federal mandate, we will create a new climate action rebate cheque for low and middle-income families.
- The rebate will go to 80 per cent of families, the majority of which will receive more money back in rebates than they pay in new carbon taxes.
- All new money from carbon tax increases will be used to provide rebate cheques for families, and to investing in climate change solutions that create jobs, benefit communities and reduce climate pollution.



# IMPROVING THE SERVICES YOU COUNT ON



Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to hurt the services you count on. They wasted millions in the courts fighting against teachers and hurting our kids' education. They caused long wait times for urgent health care, and have left seniors in care going a week at a time without a bath.

These are Christy Clark's choices. On the services that matter, she's not working for you.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will work hard to improve the services you count on. We'll deliver quality health care where you need it, when you need it. And we'll fix our education system, investing in student success from Kindergarten to graduate school.



**Everywhere I go in BC, I hear from people who are concerned that they don't have a family doctor and that they are waiting too long for the care they need. More access to care, when and where you need it, better prevention and less expensive medicine. These are my health care priorities."**

**—John Horgan**

## HEALTH CARE THAT WORKS FOR YOU



Under Christy Clark, too many British Columbians are not getting the health care they need, when they need it and where they need it.

Despite paying more and more in MSP premiums each year, British Columbians are waiting longer for treatment, finding it harder to find a family doctor and the care they need, waiting too long for an ambulance to arrive and becoming more ill while waiting in overcrowded hospitals and emergency rooms.

Over 700,000 people in British Columbia don't even have a family doctor. This number has gone up since 2010, when Christy Clark made her phony promise that everyone would have a family doctor by 2015.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will take action to make our health care system work for you, with care when you need it, where you need it.

- ▶ We will improve your access to a family doctor and other medical professionals by making the provision of team-based primary care the top priority for the Ministry of Health.
- ▶ We will reduce pressure on emergency rooms with a new urgent care model that gets you the care you need, faster.
- ▶ We will support rural British Columbians who must travel for care with an improved medical travel allowance.
- ▶ We will reduce the cost of prescription drugs.
- ▶ We will invest in new hospitals and care facilities in communities across BC.
- ▶ We will emphasize prevention and early treatment for all health issues, including mental health and addictions.
- ▶ We will reduce the demand on acute care and emergency beds by investing in home care and quality long term care for BC seniors.

## Health care, when you need it, where you need it

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have left families in many cities and towns throughout BC without access to even the most basic emergency care. Christy Clark's choices for our health care aren't working and British Columbians are paying the price with less access to doctors, growing wait lists and overcrowded hospitals.

But there is a better way. Team-based primary care is increasingly recognized as the best strategy for delivering effective primary care that is comprehensive, coordinated, continuous and the first point of contact with the health system. In Ontario, where a network of community health centres serves both urban and rural areas, patient visits to emergency rooms have decreased significantly (Source: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Systems).

- › We will establish Urgent Family Care Centres across BC to improve your access to doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, dietitians, pharmacists, mental health workers, midwives, occupational therapists and other health care providers.
- › We will ensure these care centres are open evenings and weekends, and provide the one-on-one health care you need with the support of a full medical team.
- › We will make this type of team-based primary care the standard model for primary care delivery in BC and the top priority for the Ministry of Health.
- › We will invest in more paramedics, so that no one is left waiting for an ambulance in their time of critical need.

## Getting people off waitlists and into care

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to let waitlists in our public health care system grow, making it easier for expensive private clinics to succeed, because she's working for the people at the top and her rich donors. This is no solution for British Columbia families.

- › We will support and strengthen our public health care system, reducing wait times by reorganizing and making more effective and efficient use of existing resources and expanding on innovative approaches to reducing waitlists that are proven to work.
- › We will implement province-wide coordination to manage and actively monitor waitlists to deliver the best outcomes and most timely care for patients.

### **RICHMOND HIP AND KNEE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT: A MODEL THAT WORKS**

The Richmond Hip and Knee Reconstruction Project brought median wait times for hip and knee replacement surgery down by 75 per cent, from 20 months to five months. The model used innovation, better use of resources and better patient waitlist coordination to achieve significant results. Yet, Christy Clark cut the successful project in 2014.

According to one of the doctors involved, lack of leadership led to the project's demise: "We weren't even involved in the discussion [to be terminated]. It's just mind-boggling... If you have an efficient [model] and it takes such a significant amount of time to develop that model, to go away from it is hard to explain" (CCPA, April 2016).

John Horgan and the BC NDP would reestablish innovative models like the Richmond project to achieve significant success in reducing wait times and delivering high quality care. We can do better. We just need better leadership than Christy Clark.

## Better travel assistance

People in small communities understand that they might have to travel for some advanced medical care, but many can't afford the travel bills. The BC Liberals haven't been helping. When British Columbians do have to travel for care, the last thing they should be worried about is whether they can afford to travel back home.

- › We will improve and expand travel assistance coverage for patients, including expectant mothers, from rural and remote communities. Sick and recovering people shouldn't be forced to take the long way to and from treatment.
- › We will ensure vulnerable patients from remote communities are covered for the most direct and sensible access to treatment by equalizing the coverage provided for ferries and commercial flights.
- › The best solution for health care is a local solution. We will invest in improving rural health services.

## Reducing the cost of prescription drugs

Health care that works for you includes being able to afford the medication your doctor prescribes. Under the BC Liberals, drug prices have risen and nearly one in five British Columbians report they cannot afford to take their medications as prescribed. Every day, people are forced to make unacceptable choices between paying for prescription drugs and putting food on the table.

UBC's Therapeutics Initiative was recognized as a world leader in keeping prescription medication affordable and safe, before Christy Clark and the BC Liberals tried to shut it down. The Liberals' health firings scandal wrongfully targeted the team at the Therapeutics Initiative, damaging valuable research about drug safety and affordability.

- › We will ensure the Therapeutics Initiative has the resources it needs to do its job effectively, keeping drug costs down and patients safe.

- › We will work with the federal government towards a national pharmacare program and we will support efforts to bulk purchase medication, bringing costs down.
- › We will enhance support to British Columbians living with, and at risk of, diabetes and remove the age restriction on access to the insulin pump program for people over 25.

## **RESPECT AND QUALITY CARE FOR SENIORS**



Christy Clark isn't working for BC seniors. Nine in ten seniors' care homes don't meet minimum government standards. And while the number of seniors grows, the amount of home care funded by the province is shrinking.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will make seniors a priority. We'll help seniors stay in their own homes longer. We'll improve the quality and consistency of care in care homes. And we'll create a committee of the legislature, tasked with improving the care and lives of seniors.

### **Helping seniors stay in their homes**

Supporting seniors at home as long as possible is the right thing to do. Boosting home supports will not only help seniors stay at home longer, it will reduce the stress experienced by family members, friends and other unpaid caregivers.

- › But, BC Liberal choices have made home support visits too short, rushed and stressful. This leads to seniors having to enter expensive, full time care early. John Horgan and the BC NDP will improve home care.
- › We will increase the length of home support visits and expand the scope of services provided, helping seniors stay in their homes longer.
- › We'll also create a capital fund and work with local governments and community partners to build and strengthen seniors' centres

around the province, as seniors' centres play a key role in reducing isolation, providing critical social supports, and helping seniors stay at home longer.

- › Many seniors struggle to find affordable housing. An NDP government would broaden support for the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program, which provides eligible seniors living on low to moderate incomes with monthly cash payments to help them afford to continue renting their homes.

### **Respectful residential care**

BC Liberal choices to privatize residential care and allow endless flipping of contracts and staff in these facilities lead to seniors in care being treated like numbers.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe seniors living in residential care deserve to live lives of dignity and respect. Residential care providers must be properly funded to meet minimum staffing standards in order to ensure our seniors receive quality care.

- › We will increase support for residential care and demand accountability from providers to ensure that they meet staffing standards and provide seniors with the high quality, dignified care that they deserve.
- › We will support relationship-based care, and ensure those care relationships are not disrupted by contracting out or contract-flipping.
- › We will also conduct a systematic review to establish and maintain safe staffing levels going forward.

## Government that works for seniors

A BC NDP government will develop an all-party Select Standing Committee on Seniors. This committee will be tasked with refreshing the Council on Aging and Seniors' 2006 Report, making recommendations to the Legislature and monitoring and reporting on the implementation of those recommendations.

### CHRISTY CLARK IS FAILING SENIORS

- 91 per cent of publicly funded residential homes do not meet minimum staffing requirements; only 16 facilities out of 292 in British Columbia pass the grade (Seniors Advocate, 2017).
- Home support hours were cut in 2016, while the number of British Columbians requiring home care increased (Seniors Advocate, 2016).
- Wait times for residential care are going up, and the percentage of seniors admitted into residential care is going down (Seniors Advocate, 2016).
- On key surgeries like hip and knee replacements and cataract surgeries, BC lags well behind most of Canada for wait times (Canadian Institute for Health Information, 2016).

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES



For the last 16 years Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have been outsourcing much of our mental health and addictions services in the most expensive way possible. Instead of giving people the help and the care they need, Christy Clark leaves them to go through a revolving door of acute care hospital visits and interactions with police and other first responders.

Because of the lack of services, many people suffering from acute mental illness and addictions also end up involved in the justice system. Up to 60 per cent of people incarcerated in BC suffer from mental illness, addiction, or both. Prisons are a costly and ineffective substitute for robust mental health and addictions treatment.

After years of BC Liberal neglect, John Horgan and the BC NDP will transform our mental health system by improving access, investing in early prevention and providing opportunities for intervention before problems get worse.

Whether someone is eight or 98, they need to have confidence that they only have to ask for help once to get the help they need fast, because mental health is as important as physical health.

### **Making mental health treatment and addictions support a priority**

Our fragmented mental health and addictions system fails too many British Columbians. Bringing mental health and addictions into one ministry that serves all ages will help prevent adolescents nearing adulthood from losing services when they need them most.

- › We will address the fragmented mental health care system. We will create a Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to prioritise those patients, and ensure treatment is available, coordinated and effective for everyone who needs it.

- › This new ministry will work with the Ministry of Children and Families, the Ministry of Health, local governments, First Nations and the education and justice systems so patients get treatment early and effectively.
- › We will establish a long term plan so prevention activities and treatment can be secure and effective not just now, but into the future.



**If, for instance, one of my children had a mental health or substance use challenge, it would be difficult for me to know where to turn because there are so many different entry points into the system.”**

**..there is a myriad of phone numbers and websites that direct people to different services. So it can be quite confusing for someone.”**

**- Health Minister Terry Lake**

### **Early intervention and support**

Transforming our mental health system means investing in early intervention and treatment of mental health and addictions issues. We know early intervention and prevention for children and adolescents results in measurable improvements. If identified and treated early, serious mental health issues can be dramatically mitigated.

Not only does acting early improve the quality of life of those struggling with mental illness and addictions and their families, it also costs less to treat these problems overall when they are well-managed from the start of treatment.

- › A BC NDP government will ensure children and youth have timely access to the full spectrum of mental health and addictions care in every region of the province.

### **ALEX GERVAIS**

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Alex Gervais was in the care of the BC Liberal government for 11 years. During that time he was referred for mental health services five times, and five times he was denied the services he needed. He eventually committed suicide. His life and death in Christy Clark's care were the subject of a report from the Independent Representative for Children and Youth, entitled *Broken Promises: Alex's Story*.

"Despite overwhelming evidence that Alex desperately needed robust and effective mental health interventions to cope with the repeated traumatization, he was never connected to appropriate services."

- Bernard Richard, Independent Representative for Children and Youth

## **Reaching people in need, where they are**

When people are in crisis, they need immediate help. A BC NDP government will take an "Ask Once, Get Help Fast" approach to mental health and addictions. No one should be left waiting for months for the most basic of mental health services.

- › We will ensure students can access specially trained adolescent mental health professionals within the school system, where early identification and support can lead to healthier lives and prevent a lifetime of illness.
- › We will recognize the hard work of community-based and not-for-profit services in improving the lives of those with mental health and addictions and expand support for these services.

## Evidence-based treatment

Up to 60 per cent of people who struggle with addiction also experience other mental health challenges. The current system often treats addiction separately from mental health, with large gaps in services. A BC NDP government would bring these services together to better help those in need.

An evidence-based system of care for people living with addiction issues includes equal access for concurrent disorders.

- ▶ We will provide access to a wide range of evidence-based and regulated treatment, including licensing our current recovery house system, enhancing supports post-detox, and improving access to harm reduction options that save lives.
- ▶ While the focus will be on community-based treatment, there is a segment of the population that will only improve with more intensive, residential-based treatment. We will reopen facilities on the Riverview lands to provide residential care where needed.

## TACKLING THE OVERDOSE CRISIS

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“We lost 914 people to overdoses last year. Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, friends and partners were stolen away from those they loved. We need to work together on this issue. Think of wildfires. We never wait to check the budget before putting the fires out. We get at it right away.” - John Horgan, CBC Jan. 30, 2017

When people are in trouble they need help right away. It is our commitment to provide that help fast, when and where people need it. That kind of response has been missing from the Christy Clark government’s approach to the overdose crisis. The results have been devastating for families and communities.

In the Fraser Health region alone in 2016 there were more than 3,000 suspected opioid overdoses attended to in emergency rooms.

And the problem continues. In just one week this year, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services responded to 174 overdose calls. A year after the BC Liberal health minister declared the rising number of overdoses in our province to be an emergency there is little evidence that Christy Clark’s government is treating it like one.

“There’s no government centre where you can call and say okay, my son or daughter is addicted. What do I do? Where do I turn? There is nothing. There’s no guidance.” - Michelle Jansen, who lost her son Brandon to fentanyl addiction, CFX, Nov 14, 2016

Families need support to get their loved ones the help they need. And the help they need has to be there for them. When people are ready to get help for their addictions, we need to be ready to support them.

“We don’t have a city where if somebody is addicted to drugs and they need help and they come forward to a police officer, or just want to self-report and get help, they don’t have anywhere to go - and there’s long waiting lists.” - Vancouver Police Chief Adam Palmer, Vancouver Courier, Nov. 24, 2016

### **A BC NDP government will take bold action to tackle the overdose crisis**

- › We will establish a province-wide strategy to ensure the widest possible availability of life-saving naloxone kits with people trained to use them.
- › We will provide more support to police efforts to disrupt the supply chain through measures to break up the major drug rings and send the perpetrators to trial.
- › We will push for increased penalties for drug dealers who knowingly distribute death-dealing drugs like fentanyl and carfentanil.
- › We will establish a special initiative with First Nations leaders and their communities to provide additional assistance where the impact of the crisis is greatest.
- › And we will increase support for first responders, including counselling for PTSD and work-related stress.

## INVESTING IN KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING



When it comes to getting a college or university education, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals haven't been working for young British Columbians. Skyrocketing tuition fees, the elimination of student grants, high costs of living and overcrowded courses are keeping many British Columbians from achieving their academic and career goals.

Those who do get to college or university are then saddled with massive student debt as they try to find a job. For adult students needing language skills or adult basic education, instead of a helping hand, Christy Clark made them pay tuition fees.

The BC Liberal formula has been tax cuts for millionaires and new debt and fees for British Columbians working hard to find a way into the workforce.

John Horgan's BC NDP knows that every sector of our economy is increasingly driven by the education and skill level of British Columbians. Being a leader in the world economy requires being a world leader in education at every level.

BC Liberal failures in providing BC students the education they need are costing the economy. The Conference Board of Canada has determined that the skills gap caused by the BC Liberals costs our economy \$7.9 billion and costs government \$1.8 billion in tax revenue annually.

Today, 70 per cent of all jobs in BC are held by workers with some post-secondary education. By 2025, that number is expected to rise to 77 per cent. After 16 years of BC Liberals failing our education system, BC employers are right to be concerned about the future availability of skilled workers.

For young people wanting the opportunity to succeed, and willing to work hard to get the education and skills they need and for new

Canadians ready to upgrade their skills to better support their families and contribute to our economy, John Horgan will work for you, and invest in education and training.

### **Making post-secondary education more affordable**

After years of BC Liberals making it harder to get education and skills training, we'll keep a cap on tuition fee increases and make sure low and middle income students have access to the assistance they need to get the education they want.

- › We will make student loans interest free—current and future.
- › We will provide a \$1,000 completion grant for graduates of college, university and skilled trades programs to help pay down debt when they finish their programs.
- › We will keep a cap on tuition fees at colleges and universities.
- › We will continue to support the UPass, to ensure transportation to and from class is affordable.
- › We will make Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) free again.
- › We will change regulations to allow colleges and universities to build affordable on and near-campus rental housing, and ensure student renters receive the renter's rebate of \$400 per year.

### **Investing in research and technology**

Graduate education is important for research infrastructure and for generating the technology and ideas that will allow us to lead in a diversified knowledge economy. Yet, Christy Clark has chosen to let BC lag behind other provinces in support for graduate students.

- › We will create a competitive, merit-based graduate scholarship program designed to attract and retain the best graduate students, based on hard work and talent.
- › We will begin by investing \$50 million over two years to create a new graduate scholarship fund.
- › We will invest \$100 million to expand technology-related post-secondary programs and invest in information and communications, digital media and entertainment, life sciences and health, clean-tech, IT and engineering and more.
- › We will partner with universities throughout BC to build technology and innovation centres in key areas of BC's economy.

### **Expanding skills training and apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships are the best way to train the workforce of tomorrow, and ensure British Columbians can work on major BC construction projects. But under the BC Liberals, opportunities for training and apprenticeships on capital projects, in our schools and hospitals and in our crown corporations don't exist in the numbers they should. We'll fix that and train the workforce of tomorrow.

- › We will mandate effective apprenticeship ratios on government-funded projects, so new roads, bridges, schools and hospitals are also creating skilled workers for the future.
- › We will provide incentives to public sector employers to hire and train apprentices.
- › We will improve safety, quality and consumer protection by strengthening credentialing requirements, as we improve training.
- › We will partner with First Nations to increase the number of skilled First Nations and mandate local hiring on government projects.
- › We will provide incentives to employers to increase the number of women in apprenticeships.

## INVESTING IN CHILDREN AND CLASSROOMS



From her time as Minister of Education to today, Christy Clark has been in a never-ending fight against the success of our children in public schools.

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals closed more than 200 schools, many of them anchors of their communities. They illegally tore up agreements that protected the time and effort teachers had in order to help BC children succeed. They caused disruptions that took teaching days away from kids, and interfered with sports and other important extracurricular activities. And, they've left many of our children in schools we know won't be safe in an earthquake.

Today, for each student, there are fewer librarians, fewer teachers, fewer teaching assistants and specialist teachers, and less support for important activities like music and sports.

While Christy Clark was making it harder for our kids to succeed, she was also making life harder for parents. As funding for schools fell short, parents increasingly had to hold bake sales, auctions and other fundraisers to pay for essentials, like textbooks and playground equipment.

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals caused 16 years of instability in our classrooms and used your tax dollars to fight against our public schools all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. And in every court, at every level, the BC Liberals lost and our kids won.

And now, with the Supreme Court ordering Christy Clark to respect commitments to the success of our kids in schools, the BC Liberals are acting like they care. Parents in BC know, based on 16 years of experience, that they don't.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe that the best way to build a strong economy for today and tomorrow is to invest in the success of our kids, and unlike the BC Liberals, we don't need the Supreme Court to tell us to fund education properly.

For us, investing in our kids' success means providing stability in the classroom, ensuring all kids have the time and attention they need to do their absolute best, and putting an end to parents fundraising for the essentials, so you can focus on your kid's success instead.

## **Giving schools the resources they need**

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have starved our schools of needed funding and left classrooms short on supplies. We'll fund classroom essentials and playgrounds, so parents can focus on their child's success, not on selling cookies.

- ▶ Parents want a public school system they can depend on. A BC NDP government would deliver stability and proper funding. Christy Clark had to be forced by the Supreme Court to restore classroom conditions for our children. That's wrong. We'd ensure kids have the supports they need to thrive.
- ▶ We will provide \$30 million per year to our school system to ensure that kids have the school supplies that they need to succeed.
- ▶ Playgrounds are part of our schools and a healthy childhood. Parents have enough to do without being asked to become full time fundraisers for basic school equipment. A BC NDP government will create an ongoing capital fund for school playgrounds.
- ▶ We will work with school districts to successfully implement BC's new school curriculum and provide new technology, lab equipment, learning material and professional development support for teachers.
- ▶ After 16 years of BC Liberal neglect, it is time to examine our school funding formula to ensure it meets the needs of children and communities. A BC NDP government is committed to a comprehensive review of BC's current K-12 funding formula to move BC's school system to a better, stable and sustainable model for investing in education. Christy Clark's current per-pupil funding model doesn't work for the differing costs of education in BC's rural, suburban and inner city schools.

## **Building quality, safe classrooms for our kids**

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to leave our kids in low-quality portables and buildings that are unsafe. We'll invest in schools, so our kids are safe and comfortable while they learn.

- ▶ We will replace Surrey portables with real classrooms, building new schools in BC's fastest growing region.
- ▶ All across BC, whether it's the Prince Rupert middle school's seismic, sewage and other health and safety problems, or Burke Mountain, where schools were promised ten years ago but construction only started in November 2016, we need to do a better job of planning for our children's future. We will work with local governments, First Nations and communities to build and upgrade schools in every region of British Columbia.
- ▶ We will accelerate the seismic upgrade program for BC, making schools safer for our kids should an earthquake happen during school hours.
- ▶ We will invest in energy efficiency and lighting upgrades for our schools, reducing power consumption, improving the quality of light and learning, and we'll put the savings right back into the school system.
- ▶ And where possible, we will build new schools with made-in-BC manufactured wood products, that will create a healthy learning environment for our kids, while also spurring growth and creating jobs in our forestry communities.

## **Making every child welcome**

Graduation rates for First Nations students are still well below the provincial average. Nothing less than parity is acceptable as a goal. John Horgan and the BC NDP recognize that achieving success in First Nations' graduation rates starts with respect and inclusion, and in ensuring First Nations children see themselves in their studies.

- › We will develop with First Nations a curriculum that reflects accurately and fairly on the rich history of the people of this land.
- › We will provide support for, and work towards full course offerings in Aboriginal languages.
- › We will implement the K-12 education Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report.

The success of our kids depends not only on their interactions with teachers, but also with their classmates and their school environment. When students are bullied, anxious, or feeling the stress of tough school days, it can undermine their mental health and their success.

- › We will make mental health counselors available where schools identify a need so children can get the help they need, when they need it.

We will also help inspire our kids to lead in the new economy. We will provide supports to learn coding in the classroom and partner with innovative not-for-profits and technology companies in British Columbia that teach coding in schools and afterschool programs. We will support the expansion of digital arts, technology and trades education, and make tools, machinery and equipment available to students.

## **ENDING POVERTY IN BC**



Under Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, one in five children lives in poverty and food bank use has broken records two years in a row. More than 3,000 children have been added to food bank rolls since Christy Clark became premier.

Five times the BC NDP put forward a poverty reduction plan and five times Christy Clark and the BC Liberals rejected it. We're the only province in Canada that doesn't have one.

It's clear Christy Clark isn't working for ordinary people who are struggling to get by. She is working for the big donors who paid her \$300,000 second salary.

## **Support and care for those most in need**

As the cost of living in BC has skyrocketed, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have frozen support for British Columbians in need of basic assistance for ten years. Allowances for income assistance and disability have gone from tough to get by, to impossible to get by.

- › We will reduce the depth of poverty in BC by acting immediately to raise all income assistance and disability rates by \$100 per month.
- › We will encourage and support assistance recipients as they re-enter the workforce by allowing them to keep an additional \$200 a month in earnings exemptions.
- › We will end Christy Clark's disability bus pass clawback, fully restoring the BC Bus Pass program for people with disabilities.

## **Making a plan to address poverty**

While those at the top have been doing very well under Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, BC's record on poverty, and especially on child poverty, has been among the worst in Canada.

It's time for a poverty reduction plan with legislated targets and timelines so we can get kids and families out of poverty and on the path to success.

- › We will bring together disability advocates and organizations, people living in poverty, poverty reduction groups and others who are committed to a Better BC to develop a poverty reduction strategy and examine the full scope of poverty reduction initiatives. Their work will help us meet our goal of helping all individuals live lives of dignity, respect, and opportunity.

## Taking action on homelessness

Just as the BC Liberals have failed to ensure the supply of rental housing keeps up with demand, they have failed dramatically on homelessness. Even as cities target the elimination of homelessness, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have failed to step up and made it worse, leading to increases in homelessness.

- › We will partner with the federal government, local municipalities, agencies and community groups to create an immediate homelessness action plan, which includes a provincial poverty reduction plan.
- › We will ensure that initiatives in other areas such as mental health, social assistance, justice, safety, health, and more are tied into the action plan.
- › We will conduct a province-wide homeless count and commit to reduce the homeless population through permanent housing and services as part of our action plan on housing.

## PUTTING CARE INTO CHILD PROTECTION

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have starved our child protection system of resources and failed to provide the basics of care. We believe every child has the right to care, safety, permanency and connection with their culture.

Tragically, last year more than 100 children involved with the Ministry of Children and Families died. Only half of BC foster children graduate from high school with their peers. More than half of former youth in care rely on income assistance programs, and many struggle with mental illness and homelessness.

A disproportionate number of children in care, more than 65 per cent, are of Indigenous ancestry. And Aboriginal children, especially girls, are more likely to be abused in care than other children. There are more Indigenous children in care in BC today than there were at the height of residential schools.

And despite the extra challenges faced by Aboriginal children in care, there is a funding gap between Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and services targeted at the broader population.

### **Ensuring that children who leave care thrive, not just survive**

Under Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, kids aging out of the care system have struggled to transition, suffered with significant mental health challenges and, tragically, some have taken their own lives. We will take action to improve the conditions and success of kids aging out of care.

- › We will increase funding for Agreements with Young Adults by an additional \$10 million in order to offer supports to all youth aging out of care who need it, not just a few.
- › We will ensure our K-12 system has the resources to help youth-in-care graduate with their peers.
- › We will work with universities and colleges to expand the tuition fee waiver program and provide enhanced supports for former youth in care who pursue post-secondary education.

### **Helping Aboriginal children connect and stay with their families and communities**

We will work to implement all the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, with reducing the number of Aboriginal children entering our care system as a top priority and ensuring quality and safe care for those who do enter.

- › We will implement the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report and provide better supports to keep Aboriginal children at home and out of care.

- › When Aboriginal children do enter care, we will ensure that basic care standards are met, that there is a plan for every child in care to connect them with their culture and communities, and that there is a plan for permanency.
- › We will ensure Delegated Aboriginal Agencies are supported to offer services at the same level offered to non-Aboriginal children.

### **Committing to accountability**

We would task the Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth to review the recommendations of the Independent Representative for Children and Youth to identify recommendations that have not been met and how to address them.

## **A JUSTICE SYSTEM THAT WORKS**



BC's justice system has been undermined by Christy Clark's choices. She failed to ensure that access to justice is fair, timely and affordable. As a result, BC communities are less safe.

After 16 years of the BC Liberals closing community courthouses, slashing the number of sheriffs and starving legal aid, people are waiting longer than ever for justice.

Delays have become so extreme that accused criminals are walking away without consequences because it took too long for Christy Clark to get their cases to trial, or sheriffs weren't available.

British Columbians deserve a justice system that is fair, responsive and effective. A BC NDP government will deliver that.

## **Ensuring justice is served**

We will take immediate action to address the shortage of court sheriffs. BC Liberal budget cuts to sheriff services in 2011 saw the elimination of 34 full-time sheriff positions. The number of positions has steadily dwindled from a historical norm of about 525, to under 400, despite increased demand for justice services. The shortage of sheriffs delays trials and leads to accused criminals walking away without trial.

## **Taking action on gang violence**

An average of one person every week was shot in the community of Surrey over the past two years. It's time to implement the Surrey Accord and bring together all levels of government to create a safer, healthier community. We will implement the Surrey Accord by addressing challenges facing Surrey neighbourhoods including crime, mental health, addiction and homelessness.

As part of our plan to address gangs and gun violence we will give the Surrey Wraparound (WRAP) program stable, secure funding and increase support for it by \$500,000 a year. This partnership between the city, the school district and the RCMP connects teens who are at risk of joining gangs with outreach workers, teachers and police.

## **Providing fair access to justice**

By improving legal aid, and expanding the use of duty counsel, we will take pressure off the courts by reducing the number of people forced to represent themselves because of a lack of resources.

We will further improve access to justice by increasing staffing of the Court Services Branch, improving access to dispute resolutions services for families, expanding poverty law services and supporting First Nations legal services.

## **Preventing crime, ending discrimination and helping people heal**

We will increase support for initiatives that are proven to prevent and reduce crime, and increase the use of restorative justice programs.

- › We will work with First Nations to set targets and take action to reduce the number of Aboriginal people facing our justice system and to reduce incarceration rates.
- › We will recognize culture for its role in rehabilitation and recovery and will provide culturally diverse and appropriate programming in prisons, particularly for Aboriginal people.

After years of underfunding by the BC Liberals, we will increase funding to support women who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes by \$8 million a year.

## **WELCOMING AND SUPPORTING NEWCOMERS**



People who come to British Columbia from outside of Canada, whether they be immigrants, refugees or Temporary Foreign Workers, deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and given a path to success.

For Temporary Foreign Workers, that means protecting workers from being abused by their employers and providing a fair path to remain in BC. While the majority of employers are responsible, the few who are not hurt workers who are trying to make a better life in Canada or for their families back home. These employers damage Canada's reputation and compete unfairly against other honest BC businesses.

For refugees and immigrants, it means addressing barriers to success by improving recognition of credentials, increasing access to language and offering supports to those in need. Helping people find work at their highest level of skill will help our economy and help new Canadians succeed.

## Protecting workers, helping businesses

The Temporary Foreign Worker Program must ensure the interests of BC workers have priority, while considering the needs of employers facing legitimate worker shortages. For that to happen we need to know how many Temporary Foreign Workers are employed in the province and in what sectors they are working.

- › We will bring in a Temporary Foreign Worker registry similar to Manitoba's to give government the information it needs to protect workers.
- › We will end the collection of illegal recruitment fees from Temporary Foreign Workers by requiring recruiters and employers to register to recruit Temporary Foreign Workers, using legislation similar to the Manitoba "Worker Recruitment and Protection Act" and the Saskatchewan "Foreign Worker Recruitment and Immigration Services Act."

## Helping newcomers thrive

BC needs skilled workers, but too many foreign-trained professionals struggle to have their credentials recognized.

- › We will break down barriers to success by improving the processes used to assess and recognize the credentials of foreign-trained professionals.
- › We will create a Centre for Newcomers, similar to the one in Calgary, that will help coordinate and educate skilled newcomers in their fields.
- › We will reverse Liberal cuts and restore funding to eliminate fees to Adult Basic Education and English language courses for immigrants.

Finding a place in BC's job market for refugees and immigrants fleeing violence and instability takes additional support in the short term. We believe these most vulnerable new residents deserve a real chance to thrive in BC.

- › We will improve supports for refugees to ensure that they can build happy and successful new lives in our province.
- › We will work with the federal government to increase BC's quota under the Provincial Nominee Program and to increase the province's control over the terms of qualification.

## **IMPROVING BC'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals' choices on transportation have left many commuters waiting longer to get to work, paying hundreds in tolls each year, watching full buses roll by.

### **Fixing Translink**

The BC Liberals made a mess of Metro Vancouver's transportation governance, by undermining the mayors, giving power to Liberal appointees over elected officials, passing the buck when convenient and being completely inconsistent and unpredictable on funding models. They've announced billion dollar projects that Metro mayors didn't even want and made it impossible for mayors to plan for the projects the region needs.

- › We will support the Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision for Metro Vancouver Transportation. We have committed to funding 40 per cent of the capital costs of every phase of the plan, in partnership with all levels of government. The plan is essential to growing the region, breaking traffic gridlock, and will create thousands of jobs and fuel economic growth. This means important projects like the Broadway skytrain, rapid transit in Surrey, replacing the Pattullo bridge, and adding essential bus service and improving road networks will all go forward.
- › We will work with Metro municipalities to develop a new Translink governance model that provides the structure, the funding model and the certainty to make good transportation decisions to manage the

system well, and most importantly, to get you to and from work and school faster. This includes getting rid of the referendum requirement that has delayed progress on fixing lower mainland traffic.

HandyDART has also been severely underserved by the BC Liberals. Every day in British Columbia, seniors and people with disabilities are denied HandyDART service, and are left stuck without the ride they desperately need, resulting in missed medical appointments and social isolation. HandyDART service hours were frozen by Christy Clark and the BC Liberals in 2009, and as a result, trip denials went up over 600 per cent. Service quality has also deteriorated, with riders routinely forced to wait for hours.

- › We will work with TransLink and BC Transit to find long and lasting solutions to improve HandyDART service, reduce trip denials, and ensure that seniors and people with disabilities get the rides they need.

## **Ride-sharing**

The reliance on and demand for ride-sharing is growing and we need to be ready for it. Just as they have with Translink, the BC Liberals have chosen to be partisan when it comes to ride-sharing. In their desire to make ride-sharing a political football, the BC Liberals' flailing about has created uncertainty. With the BC Liberals, we get the worst of both worlds: none of the benefits of ride-sharing technology and unease for the small business people who have been delivering taxi service.

The BC NDP will ensure customers get timely, safe, quality service by harnessing the benefits of ride-sharing services to build on the existing taxi system. We need to "level up" standards across the province to ensure we don't lose low-cost, predictable fares, accessible services, safe cars and drivers subject to appropriate criminal record checks. We will create a level playing field for all providers, and make sure you can find a safe ride when you need it, including after sporting matches, events and on special occasions, when demand is highest.

And we'll do it in a way that welcomes technology, supports ride-sharing, respects the people currently in the industry and doesn't give one group of drivers an unfair advantage over another group of drivers.

## **Capital Region Transportation Plan**

John Horgan and the BC NDP will work with mayors and other stakeholders in the capital region to explore the potential of a regional transportation authority.

- › We will make much-needed investments in capital projects and buses to support transit in the region.
- › We will lead and promote efforts to fix the E&N railway tracks so that commuter rail can become an option to eliminate gridlock in the capital region.

## **Eliminating unfair bridge tolls**

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals' arbitrary policy of tolling some new roads and bridges and not others has placed a heavy financial burden on people who must commute to work.

When the BC Liberals made their plan to toll hard working families on their commute, they failed to understand simple economics. When you put a hefty price on something, people look for alternatives. As a result, the tolled bridges are underused, losing money by the tens of millions, and traffic is overly congested in places like New Westminster.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe the BC Liberals got it wrong on tolling. While we work with the mayors to make sure needed roads, bridges and transit are built, we will eliminate tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges.

## BC Ferries

Like with the BC Liberals' unfair tolling program, skyrocketing BC Ferries fares have impacted ridership and restricted the mobility of many island residents. The BC Liberals have also cut ferry services.

And, when building new ferries, British Columbia shipyards have been excluded, with thousands of good jobs sent overseas.

John Horgan and the BC NDP recognize the ferry system is part of the highway system.

- › We will restore the seniors' discount on BC Ferries, making it free for seniors to travel from Monday to Thursday, except on holidays.
- › We will reduce fares by 15 per cent on secondary routes.
- › We will freeze fares on major routes while we conduct a review of BC Ferries cost structures.
- › We will allow BC shipyards to bid competitively on every new ferry built.

# GOOD JOBS AND A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY



## **Good jobs and a sustainable economy that works for you.**

When it comes to BC's economy, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals aren't working for you.

People across BC are working harder and falling behind. Costs are going up and their wages are stagnant. Mills are closing and people in BC's interior and north are losing jobs under the BC Liberals. But because Christy Clark's wealthy donors are doing just fine, she claims we have a strong economy.

For John Horgan and the BC NDP, a strong economy is when everyone is doing better. When life gets a little easier each month, not harder. When people like you are rewarded for working hard, with good wages, job security and a safe place to work.

A strong, sustainable economy means good jobs today and tomorrow, communities where people can afford to live and work, and strong public services like healthcare and education.

It also means working with First Nations as a partner in economic growth and sustainability, because it's the right thing to do, and because without reconciliation, uncertainty will continue to delay investment in rural economies.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will build a better BC that works for you.

- › We will invest in infrastructure, creating 96,000 construction jobs while we build new roads, schools, hospitals, housing and public transit.

- › We will spark growth in high-tech and creative industries, and we'll provide incentives to create these new economy jobs in BC's interior and north.
- › We will revitalize traditional industries like forestry and mining, and bring good jobs home.
- › We will lead on climate, creating jobs, reducing our carbon impact and lowering energy costs for British Columbians.
- › We'll make sure hard work is rewarded, with a fair minimum wage and safer workplaces.



## **96,000 CONSTRUCTION JOBS BUILDING A BETTER BC**



After 16 years of neglect from Christy Clark and the BC Liberals we need to restore, replace and repair schools, hospitals, roads, transit and other critical infrastructure across the province.

Fixing the BC Liberals' infrastructure deficit will create 96,000 jobs and stimulate \$18 billion dollars in economic activity, while helping us deliver the services people need and providing opportunities for BC businesses to innovate and grow—truly building a better BC.

### **Building social infrastructure that makes communities strong**

Quality schools, good hospitals, recreation centres and transit options are all necessities of communities large and small. We'll invest in communities right across BC, making them stronger, spurring economic growth and creating good jobs close to home.

- › We will repair, restore and replace aging and unsafe hospitals throughout the province, and ensure all new health facilities already announced are completed.
- › We will make our schools safe by accelerating critical seismic upgrades.
- › We will get students out of portables and into classrooms by building new schools in Surrey, Coquitlam and other fast-growing communities.
- › We will build quality seniors' care facilities, helping seniors transition to quality care closer to home, and live with greater dignity.
- › We will build childcare spaces in communities across the province, as part of our commitment to providing \$10 a day childcare for BC families.
- › We will build 114,000 new rental, co-op and social housing units, reducing the cost of housing and providing desperately needed, affordable homes.

- › Partnering with communities, we will create a capital fund to upgrade and build sports facilities, playgrounds, arts and culture spaces, local community seniors' centres and mental health and addictions centres.

## **Cutting commute times, reducing congestion, helping the climate**

Under Christy Clark, public transportation went from bad to worse, and congestion has gone from being inconvenient to a serious impediment to economic growth. Congestion in Metro Vancouver costs an estimated one billion dollars a year in lost economic opportunities, time spent idling and environmental costs.

Building a better BC means getting you to and from work and school faster and safer. We'll invest in improving roads and in major new transit projects to reduce congestion, get cars off the road and reduce our impact on the environment.

- › We will partner with federal and local governments to build and fund transit priorities in communities across the province.
- › We will fund the provincial share for the Metro Vancouver Mayors' Council's 10-year transportation vision, including a 40 per cent share of all capital costs. These investments include Surrey Light Rail, a new Broadway skytrain and thousands of new hours of bus service, as well as bridge and road improvements.
- › We will build, maintain and upgrade highways across the province, including completing Highway 1 upgrades to the Alberta border, and will upgrade interchanges and crossings to make our roads safer.
- › We will partner with communities to make travelling safer for people walking, using mobility aid devices, riding bicycles and using other forms of active transportation.

## Creating technology infrastructure and innovation centres

Building a better BC includes making sure all regions of BC are benefiting from jobs and investment in the new economy.

- › We will help inspire innovation by partnering with universities, colleges, technical institutions and businesses to build and fund specialized innovation centres in the interior and northern BC that will help us grow and strengthen our traditional industries, like mining, agriculture and forestry.
- › We will work with interior and northern communities to ensure they have the technology infrastructure they need to attract and support technology companies and to create good jobs for tech workers, locally.

## Building partnerships to fund new infrastructure

Our plan to create 96,000 jobs includes funding partnerships with the federal government, First Nations, municipalities, pension funds, financial institutions and businesses.

While the majority of the plan is funded with direct capital investment from government, these strategic partnerships will leverage an additional \$3 billion in funding, to create \$10 billion in capital funding over five years to build a better BC.

## CLIMATE ACTION, GOOD JOBS AND A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY



We recognize that climate change is among the most significant challenges we face. Countries around the world are taking action to modernize their economies, improve transportation and lower their impact on the environment. BC is well positioned to be a leader in these efforts with a government that will act, like John Horgan and the BC NDP. Under Christy Clark, BC is lagging behind.

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe that protecting our environment and taking action on climate change will build a sustainable economy and create good jobs in every sector and every region of our province, for today and tomorrow.

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to pit jobs against the environment. It shouldn't be that way, but the BC Liberals have shown over and over again that they are living in the past, and won't do what's right for the future.

We will take action to create tens of thousands of new, sustainable, permanent jobs, while reducing BC's climate change emissions and growing the low carbon economy.

To get there, we will be leaders in climate change solutions. We will invest in public transit, energy efficiency, clean technology, and major initiatives that will reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. We will invest new carbon tax revenues in measures that help families and reduce carbon pollution.

### **Setting carbon reduction targets and meeting them**

Christy Clark struck a panel on Climate Leadership and then proceeded to ignore it. But, the panel worked hard to identify innovative action that would support sustainable growth in our economy, reduce our carbon pollution and make life more affordable for families. Its work should be valued and implemented.

- › We will renew the Climate Leadership panel within our first 100 days, and work towards implementing their full suite of recommendations under our core principles for climate action.
- › We will put BC on a path to meeting BC's legislated 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 80 per cent below 2007 levels and will set a new legislated 2030 reduction target of 40 per cent below 2007 levels.

## **Creating good, sustainable jobs that lower our carbon emissions**

From investing in reforestation, to building new rapid transit solutions, to a comprehensive clean energy program called PowerBC, the BC NDP will invest in the long term success of our economy, while doing our part to fight climate change. Together, these programs will create thousands of jobs, and strengthen our economy for today and into the future.

## **Making new carbon taxes predictable, fair and effective**

Working within the parameters of the federal government's mandate, we will work to provide predictability for BC businesses and protect BC families from facing another hit on their pocketbook, while taking action to further reduce carbon emissions. As outlined in our *Clean Growth, Climate Action* plan:

- › We will phase in the federally mandated \$50/tonne carbon price by 2022 over three years, starting in 2020.
- › We will create a new climate action rebate cheque for low and middle income families. This cheque will go to 80 per cent of BC households, with a majority receiving more back from this rebate than they pay in new carbon taxes. The rebate will be issued at the start of each year, so families aren't out of pocket.
- › We will provide certainty to stimulate investment and protect trade exposed businesses, maintaining our competitiveness, by establishing separate sectoral reduction goals and sectoral reduction plans for transportation (30 per cent reduction by 2030), industry (30 per cent reduction by 2030), and buildings and homes (50 per cent reduction by 2030).

## **PROTECTING OUR AIR, LAND AND WATER, CREATING JOBS**



British Columbians are proud to live in a beautiful province with clean air, land and water. We are blessed with incredible ecological diversity. It's part of who we are, and the source of economic prosperity for communities across the province—prosperity that can grow with vision and leadership.

Protecting the environment and creating jobs go hand in hand. Wildlife viewing, recreational fishing and hunting, and other eco-tourism activities add 40,000 jobs to our economy every year, and that contribution is growing.

### **Banning the grizzly trophy hunt**

British Columbia is one of the few places on earth where grizzlies still thrive. Recreational viewing of grizzlies generates significant economic activity and good jobs on the coast and in the interior.

The vast majority of British Columbians believe it is wrong for these rare and threatened creatures to be shot for trophies.

It's not just wrong, it's bad for the economy. The trophy hunting of grizzly bears delivers fewer jobs than wildlife viewing operations, and is opposed by most hunters.

- › We will ban the grizzly bear trophy hunt.
- › We will make permits for other kinds of hunting more fair for BC residents.

## Protecting species at risk

There are more species at risk of going extinct in BC than anywhere else in Canada. Yet, we're one of the only provinces in the country without stand-alone species at risk legislation.

- › We will bring in an endangered species law and harmonize other laws to ensure they are all working towards the goal of protecting our beautiful province.
- › We will work with the federal government, South Okanagan communities, and local First Nations to create a plan to protect the large number of endangered species in that area, as the federal government develops a new national park.

## Investing in parks and camping

BC's parks system draws visitors from across the world, yet under Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, the number of campsites has declined, park ranger hours have been reduced, and the shortage of campsites has led to British Columbians being denied camping locations and the opportunity to truly appreciate all that BC offers.

- › We will restore funding for BC parks.
- › We will hire additional park rangers and conservation officers.
- › We will build new campsites to catch up with current demand.
- › We will put BC residents first in line for campsite bookings.

## Improving wildlife management

British Columbia's biodiversity, fish and wildlife populations and the habitat upon which they depend are under threat due to lack of funding, government cuts to staff and ineffective policies.

- › We will ensure dedicated funding for wildlife and habitat conservation, give wildlife and habitat priority, and engage concerned groups to work collaboratively towards short and long term plans for our wildlife resources.
- › We will put all funds from hunting licenses and tags into a dedicated fund for wildlife and habitat conservation.
- › We will bring people who rely on our wildlife resources together and ensure they all participate in and contribute financially to conservation. This way we will not only ensure dedicated funding for habitat conservation but have the funds required to do the work needed.

### **Sustaining aquaculture and commercial and recreational fishing**

BC's wild salmon are an iconic species that underpin entire ecosystems. Salmon are critical to the food, livelihoods and culture of coastal communities and First Nations.

- › We will ensure that the salmon farming industry does not endanger wild salmon by implementing the recommendations of the Cohen Commission, keeping farm sites out of important salmon migration routes, and supporting research and transparent monitoring to minimize the risk of disease transfer from captive to wild fish.
- › We will also provide incentives to help the aquaculture industry transition to closed containment where possible.

### **Environmental decisions you can trust**

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have gutted our environmental assessment processes, leading to risky decisions, creating delays for business and undermining public confidence in new projects.

- › We will update our environmental assessment legislation and processes to ensure that they respect the legal rights of First Nations, and meet the public's expectation of a strong, transparent process that results in the best outcomes as part of a made in BC assessment process.
- › We will improve environmental assessments to provide certainty to project proponents, First Nations, and all British Columbians, faster.
- › In partnership with First Nations and communities, we will modernize land-use planning to effectively and sustainably manage BC's ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth, while accounting for cumulative effects. We will take an evidence-based scientific approach and use the ecosystem-based management of the Great Bear Rainforest as a model.



Most of BC's natural gas is produced using hydraulic fracturing, a process that has been used in north eastern BC for decades. With the potential of a significant expansion of gas production in the years ahead, we will appoint a scientific panel to review the practice to ensure that gas is produced safely, and that our environment is protected. This will include assessment of impacts on water and, given recent minor earthquakes in the area, what role gas production has in seismic activity.

The Kinder Morgan pipeline is not in BC's interest. It means a seven-fold increase in tanker traffic. It doesn't, and won't, meet the necessary conditions of providing benefits to British Columbia without putting our environment and our economy at unreasonable risk. We will use every tool in our toolbox to stop the project from going ahead.



**Enough is known to be prudent and prevent exposure to children, especially when the use of these chemicals is unnecessary. In this respect, prohibiting the use of cosmetic pesticides is both responsible and respectful of the state of the scientific evidence.”**

**—Barbara Kaminsky, CEO, Canadian Cancer Society,  
Vancouver Sun, June 9, 2012**

## Clean, safe drinking water and healthy communities

All British Columbians have the right to clean, safe drinking water, and a safe environment. Christy Clark and the BC Liberals repeatedly refused to take action against cosmetic pesticides, and have left British Columbians in dozens of communities under ongoing boil water advisories.

- › We will commit to and recognize the right to clean, safe drinking water through a renewed environmental assessment process that works with First Nations and communities to address the cumulative effects of development on ecosystems and watersheds.
- › We will work with the federal government to improve drinking water quality in BC communities and ensure our permitting process prioritizes local drinking water needs.
- › We will review the Water Sustainability Act to ensure that high volume water users are paying for access fairly, and that drinking water sources are protected.
- › We will keep cancer-causing chemicals off of our lawns, and out of our parks, gardens and places where children play by banning cosmetic pesticides.

## PowerBC MEANS GOOD JOBS, LOWER COSTS, LESS CARBON

When John Horgan became leader he set out to create a roadmap for the future of BC energy that will create good-paying jobs throughout the province, drive innovation, and help hard working British Columbians save money on their energy and transportation bills.

That roadmap, PowerBC, is designed to reduce electricity demand, generate new energy responsibly and sustainably, and create lasting good jobs in energy efficiency and generation.

PowerBC will protect BC Hydro customers from skyrocketing bills, protect our environment, respect First Nations land title, and ensure BC has access to clean, affordable electricity for generations to come.

Meanwhile Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have put BC Hydro rates at risk by excluding projects from oversight, and cutting programs designed to reduce electricity consumption.

### **Starting with saving your tax dollars**

BC taxpayers pay more than \$400 million a year to heat, light and otherwise power up public buildings, including schools and hospitals. Investing in public building upgrades will have immediate benefits to the climate and to government's bottom line.

For every one per cent improvement in energy efficiency, we can save over \$4 million in energy costs per year. We will make significant gains in reducing energy use in public buildings, and drive those savings back into providing services like health care and education.

### **Helping families and businesses save money, and the climate**

BC Hydro programs to promote energy efficiency have proven their value in saving businesses money on lighting, heating and cooling. Money they can invest in growth and creating new jobs. But Christy Clark has neglected those programs and the people who could benefit from them while she focused on LNG.

We'll revitalize these programs and launch new ones aimed at helping homeowners and businesses transform the places they live and work to make them healthier and more comfortable, while reducing energy bills and climate pollution.

## Maximizing generation from existing infrastructure

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have pushed a megaproject ahead in north eastern BC without allowing for proper oversight by the agency responsible for protecting BC Hydro customers, and without maximizing productivity from already existing dams.

Where new hydro electricity is needed, the BC NDP will focus on maximizing capacity of current infrastructure. Rather than new dams, we can generate new power by upgrading existing dams.

## Leading on clean energy

While wind and solar projects are providing an ever-increasing amount of power in jurisdictions around the world, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have made BC so unfriendly for investment in these kinds of projects that renewable energy associations have left BC.

With PowerBC, we will look to renewable, modern energy sources for our future energy needs. We will bring investment in wind, solar and other clean energy projects back to BC, and ensure we are including communities in the benefits of these projects.

## GOOD JOBS AND INNOVATION IN BC TECH

With BC's skilled workforce, growing entrepreneurial culture, diverse population and beautiful environment, BC is positioned to be a global leader in technology and innovation.

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have wasted hundreds of millions of dollars on failed software development projects with firms from outside BC, projects that sent jobs and money out of BC and brought little or no value to the province. Now that Christy Clark is facing the electorate, she's turning to this successful sector for convenient photo-ops, even though BC tech companies succeeded without her.

We will support growth in the tech sector with strategic investments in infrastructure, developing and attracting world class talent and by doing more to encourage venture capital to invest in BC startups. We'll also use BC's excellent software firms to deliver major development projects for government.

### **BC LIBERAL RECORD ON IT PROCUREMENT**

The Vancouver Sun investigated eight high-profile IT projects launched by the province in 2015. The Sun estimated that they had gone over budget by a combined \$350 million on a total price tag of \$2.5 billion.

**Social services and child welfare:** The Integrated Case Management system cost \$182 million, \$75 million over the original budget, and only succeeded in replacing one third of the planned systems. The project faced backlash from front-line workers, repeated technical problems and safety warnings. BC's independent representative for children and youth said vulnerable children and families could be at risk because information for social agencies and police is not being properly processed.).

**Education:** BCeSIS, purchased by then-Minister of Education Christy Clark, was supposed to be a system for tracking student information in BC's public schools. It cost almost \$97 million but didn't work and had to be replaced. The new system, called MyEducationBC, and developed at a cost of \$95 million, was barely an improvement. One teacher commented in a 2015 Vancouver Sun article, "It's so Byzantine and so difficult to navigate... It was not designed with teachers in mind."

**Health Care:** In 2013, the BC Liberals signed a risky, 10-year, \$842 million contract with IBM to deliver the Clinical Systems Transformation Project, an electronics health records system for Vancouver Coastal Health and the Provincial Health Services Authority. The province fired IBM after two years and \$72 million. It now has a new contractor but inside sources have said the project will be \$250 million over budget, may be reduced in scope and that its first phase has been delayed a year.)

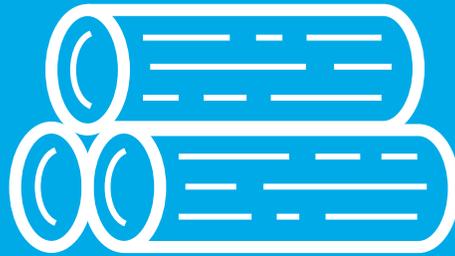
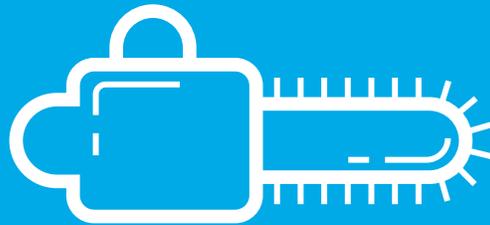
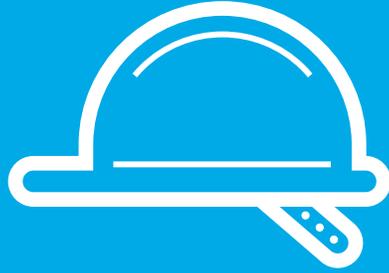
**BC Hydro:** In 2009, BC Hydro embarked on a 5-year, \$400 million plan to upgrade its IT and telecommunications capabilities, saying it would reduce operating costs. By 2015 they'd spent \$500 million, the job was only half done and operating costs had gone up, not down. It is currently the subject of an inquiry at the BC Utilities Commission.

**ICBC Claims Transformation Program:** As part of modernizing ICBC's business practices approved by the BC Liberal cabinet, ICBC's Claims Transformation Program laid off frontline staff while installing an expensive and so-far incomplete Information Technology system. Instead of face-to-face contact, customers who had suffered a collision had their claims processed through an impersonal computer program. In the last few years, ICBC customers are turning to lawyers like never before and the number of unpaid claims has almost doubled.

## Investing in developing and attracting world class talent

To make BC a global leader in innovation and technology, we will start by investing in people.

- We will invest \$100 million to expand technology-related post-secondary programs and invest in talent in information and communications, digital media and entertainment, life sciences and health, clean-tech, IT and engineering and more.



## BC LIBERAL FAILURES

**30,000** FEWER JOBS

**100** MILLS CLOSED

**500%** INCREASE IN RAW LOG EXPORTS

- › We will expand tech-sector co-op programs offered through BC's colleges and universities.
- › We will appoint a Chief Talent Officer who will bring focus to government's efforts to train, repatriate and recruit the talent necessary for our tech sector to grow.
- › Through our public education system and partnering with innovative not-for profits, we will ensure every child in BC is given the opportunity to learn how they can change the world by learning to code, even if they don't have a computer at home.
- › We'll work to close the digital divide, increasing the participation of women, First Nations and people from low-income families in the high technology workforce.

### **Creating better access to capital**

Entrepreneurs in BC's growing startup community need access to capital to succeed in taking their concepts from idea to successful, growing business.

- › We will strengthen existing venture capital and tax credit programs to encourage investment in BC companies, and develop a stronger venture capital culture here at home.
- › We will re-invigorate the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund to boost investments in groundbreaking new energy technologies, climate change solutions, and community-focused energy projects, especially projects that drive development in rural, northern and First Nations communities.
- › We will streamline and simplify the many incentive programs and credits offered to the tech sector to better support smaller companies, without mountains of paperwork.
- › We will offer networking grants to start-ups and early stage companies to allow startups to attend investor conferences and networking events, with the intent of bringing investment home to BC.

## Create local markets for IT and software development

Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have a terrible record of sending quality software development contracts outside BC to expensive global firms, resulting in cost overruns and tech that does not meet BC's needs.

- › We will bring in a cap on the value and the length of government IT contracts to save money, increase innovation, improve competition and help our tech sector grow.
- › We will make government IT and software development procurement work better for companies that hire locally and have a local supply chain.
- › We will partner with local governments in northern and rural communities to ensure local digital infrastructure is affordable, accessible and business ready, and that innovation is driving job growth in local industries.
- › We will create new innovation centres across the province, in partnership with universities and with all five components of our tech sector—clean tech, digital media, engineering, information and communications technology, and life sciences.

## GOOD JOBS IN A RENEWED FOREST INDUSTRY

Even with Christy Clark and the BC Liberals' neglect of forest jobs, forestry remains the anchor industry of many communities across BC. The BC Liberals have cost BC 30,000 direct forestry jobs and countless more indirect jobs. They have exported raw logs at an unprecedented pace and undermined the future of the industry by failing to keep up with reforestation.

And while US forest companies have been pushing hard for an unfair softwood lumber agreement that would cost more BC jobs, Christy Clark was asleep at the switch until John Horgan called on her to act.

30,000 good forestry jobs have been lost by the BC Liberals. We'll work hard to bring those jobs back

### **Expanding markets for BC wood products at home and abroad**

BC wood products can be the building material of the future, at home and abroad.

- › We will maximize the use of innovative BC wood products in infrastructure projects, like schools, hospitals and rental housing construction and ask the federal government to do the same.
- › We will offer incentives to BC builders that use engineered wood products and to BC companies starting innovative wood manufacturing operations.
- › We will work with industry, local governments and First Nations to expand wood manufacturing capacity and create new jobs.
- › We will partner with colleges and universities to train the designers, engineers and tradespeople needed to put these wood products to use.
- › We will support industry in evaluating and meeting building material safety tests for export markets, and in giving the global building industry confidence in these products.
- › We will join with BC's forest industry and research organizations, like FPInnovations, to expand efforts to market BC's high quality wood products to the world.

### **Creating BC jobs with BC logs, for today and tomorrow**

The BC Liberals haven't just stood by and watched as logs are exported overseas, they've enabled it. We believe that BC mills should have access to the logs they need to create good jobs here.

- › We will work with BC’s forest industry to find fair and lasting solutions that keep more logs in BC for processing. This will give BC mills of all sizes access to the logs they need to create good jobs and support BC communities, providing certainty and job security for forestry workers.
- › We will invest in the future by expanding investments in reforestation across BC. Renewing our forests will create good year-round jobs, well-paying summer jobs for BC students, and ensure the success of BC’s forest industry for the long term.
- › We will stand up for BC wood products in softwood lumber negotiations with the United States and fight hard for a fair deal for BC that protects and creates jobs here in BC.



**Over the last years, I’ve had to go a lot between BC and Alberta to find enough work in forestry. I’m away from family and my community in northern BC far too much. I see raw logs being loaded onto trucks and driven to the coast for export. I don’t understand why we can’t process more of them here in our mills.”**

**—Lawrence Watson**

**Terrace, BC**

## **GOOD JOBS GROWING BC AGRICULTURE**



BC’s agriculture sector provides much of the food we consume here in BC, employs British Columbians from Fort Nelson to Saanich, and has developed significant export markets.

But after 16 years of neglect by Christy Clark and the BC Liberals, the proportion of our food supplied by BC farmers has been falling. Employment has dropped and our agricultural land has been threatened as a result of BC Liberals undermining the Agricultural Land Reserve. Without a long term plan we risk losing farms and farmers, as well as opportunities to develop, process and export new food products.

Agriculture, food processing and a growing beer, wine, cider and spirits sector can create thousands of good jobs while providing food security and great products for British Columbians.

### **Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC**

Our *Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC* initiative will put a stop to the BC Liberals' plan to undermine the province's vital agricultural land reserve, increase BC food marketing efforts, and improve the quality of hospital food.

- › We will revitalize the land reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission for the 21st century.
- › We will help young farmers access land, and work with primary producers on initiatives like ensuring bee populations stay healthy to pollinate crops, and supporting fruit and nut growers and processors.
- › We will help hospitals and care facilities increase their use of BC grown and processed foods and we will work to expand the use of BC food products in all other government facilities.
- › We will bring back an enhanced *Buy BC* marketing program to help local producers market their products in BC and for export.

### **Encouraging leadership and innovation**

We see tremendous global opportunity in growing and processing food. As the climate changes and the world population grows, BC is uniquely positioned to grow its share of food markets. British Columbia's agricultural land reserve, our thriving technology and manufacturing sectors and access to the Asia Pacific leave us well positioned to benefit.

- › We will work with growers, processors, colleges and universities to develop a BC Food Innovation Centre to innovate in the processing, packaging and marketing of BC food products.
- › The Innovation Centre will work to link local food producers with new technology and expand their access to world markets.

### **Expanding markets for vintners, brewers and craft distillers**

BC wine, beer and spirits are creating good jobs, improving tourism and allowing BC consumers to buy local. We believe there is significant opportunity for growth in each of these sectors.

- › We will establish a BC beer, wine and spirits advisory panel, composed of industry leaders, experts and entrepreneurs. The panel will advise on how we can increase domestic sales of BC products in stores and restaurants and provide general advice on how to strengthen and grow the industry.
- › We will work with local producers to expand market access in the rest of Canada and abroad, including providing marketing support through the renewal of *Buy BC*.

### **GOOD JOBS IN SAFE, RESPONSIBLE MINING**



British Columbia's mining sector is an important job creator in many BC communities. Under the BC Liberals, the mining industry has struggled to move projects forward as it has faced delays and uncertainty. Further, a major disasters that followed BC Liberal cuts to inspections and monitoring have hurt the reputation of the mining industry.

John Horgan's BC NDP will work with communities and the mining industry to create and sustain jobs, safely, in this important industry.

- › We will assess mining applications with an improved, properly resourced approvals process, to get to good decisions faster.

- › We will increase exploration and development activity with continued support of the mining flow-through share tax credit, the mineral exploration tax credit, and by removing the PST from electricity used in mining.
- › We will establish a BC Mining Jobs Task Force, mandated to work with the mining industry and mining communities to make jobs secure and mines viable as commodity prices fluctuate.
- › We will increase industry safety, by establishing an independent oversight unit, and providing it with the resources to do its jobs thoroughly, effectively and in a timely way, increasing confidence in the sector.
- › We will expand the role of the BC Geological Survey (BCGS) and use GeoScience and BCGS data to inform land use planning initiatives in partnership with First Nations.

#### **MINES CLOSED OR CANCELLED UNDER CHRISTY CLARK**

**Endako Mine** (Shut in December 2014)

**Huckleberry Mine** (Shut August 2016)

**Trend Mine** (Idled in 2004)

**Coal Mountain Mine** (Shutting down in late 2017)

**Myra Falls** (Suspended in May 2015)

**Roman Mine** (Cancelled in 2014)

**Kitsault Mine** (Reopening cancelled in 2016)

**Quintette Mine** (Reopening cancelled in 2014)

## **GOOD JOBS IN MANUFACTURING**



While the manufacturing sector has been growing in importance to the BC economy, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have been ignoring it.

Manufacturing provides 180,000 jobs, is the largest source of exports and the fourth largest contributor to GDP in BC. For every \$1 generated by a manufacturer, an additional \$3.50 in economic activity results, and workers in manufacturing earn higher incomes on average.

As the manufacturing sector expands, the BC NDP will ensure it has the trained workers it needs to grow.

We will partner with manufacturers to develop a multi-year growth strategy to support the sector in meeting its staffing needs and to expand exports.

We will coordinate with colleges, technical institutes and other post-secondary institutions to connect students with manufacturers for training, and provide incentives to manufacturers to become training partners.

## **GOOD JOBS IN THE CREATIVE ECONOMY**



BC artists don't just make our communities more interesting, vibrant, and beautiful, they are huge contributors to our economy, with film and television having become major employers across all age groups, and particularly for younger British Columbians.

Building on our province's strengths, John Horgan and the BC NDP will work to make BC a global leader in arts, culture, film and TV.

- We will provide incentives for film producers to use BC based writers, including in their development work, by expanding BC's film labour tax credit to include BC writers.

- › We will improve the competitiveness of BC's domestic film and TV industry within Canada by ensuring that BC film and TV makers get their fair share of federal investments from Telefilm, and other federal government programs.
- › We will double the province's investment in the BC Arts Council over four years.
- › We will provide space for BC artists to create by investing in an arts infrastructure fund, mobilizing federal cultural infrastructure dollars that BC is currently missing out on.
- › We will increase investments in Creative BC to support BC musicians, publishers, authors, artists, digital media, indigenous storytellers, and the film and TV industries.

### **Good jobs in tourism and recreation**

Tourism is a major part of the BC economy, bringing in more than \$7 billion a year and it has the potential to grow even further. BC's international reputation for our natural beauty and recreation opportunities are making BC a leader in trade shows, conventions, and family tourism.

BC tourism businesses bring people from around the world to our province, and bring jobs and economic growth to our communities.

John Horgan's BC NDP will champion tourism as a job creator throughout the province. By expanding tourism marketing efforts into Asia, especially in countries with rapidly growing economies like India, we can create thousands more tourism jobs for communities across BC.

- › We will include representatives of BC's tourism sectors on all trade missions.
- › We will ensure that all short term rental operators are contributing fairly to tourism marketing programs.
- › We will ban the grizzly bear trophy hunt and help promote wildlife viewing tourism.

- › We will increase the number of camping sites, and hire additional park rangers and conservation officers, improving the quality of tourists' experience with BC parks.

## **Developing our natural gas resources safely**

Christy Clark made her entire 2013 election campaign about LNG. Four years later, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals haven't delivered a single major LNG project, and they allowed BC to be steamrolled in negotiations with big LNG companies.

No LNG plants, no LNG jobs, no revenue to pay down debt, and bad deals that last decades into the future: that's the Christy Clark legacy on LNG.

This despite Christy Clark's insistence that several LNG plants would be up and running by now. The ground hasn't been broken on one project. Even if a plant were to open, the desperate BC Liberals signed sweet-heart deals with LNG proponents that leave British Columbians without any real benefits.

Unlike LNG agreements in Australia, Christy Clark's bad deals make no mention of job guarantees for local British Columbians. Nor do they address the need to work respectfully with First Nations, or to meet our climate change commitments.

While LNG can still represent a significant opportunity for BC, it won't under Christy Clark.

To ensure BC benefits, we will require LNG projects meet four conditions:

- › Projects must offer jobs and training for British Columbians, especially jobs for local people.
- › The people of BC must get a fair return for our resources.
- › Projects must secure full partnerships with local First Nations.

- › Projects must complete a made-in-BC environmental assessment, and achieve the highest environmental standards while respecting our commitments to combating climate change.

### **CHRISTY CLARK'S BROKEN LNG PROMISES**

Christy Clark promised British Columbians an LNG windfall during the last election. She promised to have one plant up and running by 2015 and five by 2020. She promised 100,000 new jobs and to deposit \$100 billion in a prosperity fund. None of that has come true.

**Christy Clark's Phony Promise:** "At least one LNG pipeline and terminal online by 2015 and have three in operation by 2020" (BC Jobs Plan, September 2011).

**Reality:** Not one single LNG plant has been built in British Columbia.

**Christy Clark's Phony Promise:** "It's no fantasy. LNG will mean 39,000 jobs to British Columbia during construction with another 75,000 full time jobs created once in operation" (BC Liberal Party 2013 Platform).

**Reality:** The only LNG job created was for BC Liberal party insider Gordon Wilson to travel the province for \$150,000 a year, repeating Christy Clark's phony promises.

### **Success for small businesses**

Small businesses are the backbone of the BC economy. Yet, under Christy Clark more than 80 per cent of small business owners are finding it more expensive to run their business, and over 70 per cent say that the high cost of living is making it hard to find workers.

We will listen to the concerns of small business owners and work hard to help them succeed.

- › We will reduce the small business tax rate from 2.5% to 2.0%.
- › We will create a small business task force to advise government on strengthening the small business sector and its role in creating jobs in BC.
- › Credit unions are a key lender for small businesses in BC, but are restricted in what they can do to support BC business. We will give credit unions their tax status permanently and support their request to lift the cap on their lending.

## **RECOGNIZING THE CHANGING WORKPLACE**

Under Christy Clark and the BC Liberals the number of part-time, low-wage and precarious jobs has risen. CIBC Economics recently reported that the proportion of low wage jobs grew faster in BC than in any other province. Many people are working multiple jobs to make ends meet, or doing unpredictable contract work that makes planning ahead difficult.

Technology is changing the way people work, but it shouldn't change the way that workers are protected. A BC NDP government will ensure employment laws and standards match the realities of working today. Whether people are working remotely or in an office they need to be treated fairly and protected from workplace injuries.

Government needs to respond to the changing nature of the workplace and the impact that it has on workers and their families. Services to support workers need to be universal, accessible and affordable, and managed in a way to include workers who don't have traditional workplace arrangements.

### **Fair treatment for hard work**

John Horgan and the BC NDP believe that working full time should pay the bills, and that everyone has a right to come home safely from work, every day.

- › We will increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour over our first term, then tie it to inflation so that workers and businesses have certainty for the future.
- › We will ensure employment standards are applied evenly, and that they are enforced in way that recognizes the changing nature of the workplace.
- › We will make workplace safety a priority, and enforce workplace safety rules.

# RECONCILIATION, RESPECT AND A BETTER FUTURE

## Working with Indigenous Peoples

The BC NDP have long worked towards reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia. But 16 years of BC Liberal neglect has set progress back. Three years ago, the Supreme Court of Canada set down law on the legal rights of First Nations people in this province. The message was clear: Aboriginal Title and Rights are a matter of law and justice.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will make reconciliation a cross-government priority, and will work collaboratively and respectfully with First Nations to deliver a better future for us all.



VICTORIA:  
A first for First Nations' women—Melanie Mark is sworn in as MLA.



**I am ready to have hard conversations about how we work together towards reconciliation and how we prosper together.”**

**—John Horgan**

### **The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

- › We will adopt the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which has been accepted by 148 nations, including the Government of Canada.
- › In Ministers’ mandate letters, we will include a requirement that they review policies, programs and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the Declaration to action in British Columbia.
- › As a priority, we will work with First Nations’ to improve relations, to reduce conflict on the ground and in the courts by ensuring decisions affecting land, air and water respect the law, and allow all British Columbians to benefit from the sustainable development of natural resources while also preserving healthy lands, resources and ecosystems for present and future generations.

### **Acting on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action**

- › After six years of hearings and the testimony of over 6,000 survivors affected by residential schools, it’s time for action. We will accept and act on the 94 Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s final report. We will work with First Nations and the Government of Canada to do this.

## **Supporting Indigenous communities, culture and history**

- › We will develop, in consultation with First Nations, a curriculum for Indigenous languages and for Indigenous history in Canada and British Columbia, so Indigenous children and their peers can learn the history, accurately.
- › We will provide support to Indigenous communities seeking to revitalize connections to their languages.
- › We will provide reliable, dedicated funding and support for Friendship Centres.

## **Helping Aboriginal children connect and stay with their families and communities**

- › We will implement the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report and provide better supports to keep Aboriginal children at home and out of care.
- › We will ensure Delegated Aboriginal Agencies are supported to offer core services at the same level offered to non-Aboriginal children.
- › When Aboriginal children do enter care, we will ensure that basic care standards are met, that there is a plan for every child in care to connect them with their culture and communities, and that there is a plan for permanency.

## **Creating jobs and opportunities**

- › We will seek partnerships with First Nations in meeting renewable energy targets through PowerBC, building on First Nations' demonstrated leadership on solar energy.
- › We will seek partnerships with First Nations as part of our commitment to build 114,000 quality housing units in the next ten years.

- › We will mandate government training and apprenticeship programs to prioritize training for First Nations in British Columbia.
- › We will recognize and support the work of organizations working to increase First Nations participation in mining, forestry, technology, manufacturing, fishing and energy.
- › We will negotiate with First Nations leadership and communities about expanding opportunities for their share of BC's gaming industry.

# GOVERNMENT THAT WORKS FOR YOU

For 16 years, the BC Liberals have governed for those at the top, for their rich friends and donors. They haven't been working for you.

Backed by big money from their corporate donors, the BC Liberals make decisions that help them and hurt you.

They gave a billion dollar tax cut to the richest 2 per cent of British Columbians, while they increased your MSP fees and made you fundraise for textbooks for your kid's school.

They ran millions of dollars in partisan ads with your hard earned tax money, while emergency rooms remain closed in rural BC. These are taxes you pay to fund the services you count on, not to promote Christy Clark and her BC Liberals.

It's time to make different choices and get your government working for you.

Our plan is simple, straightforward and transparent and it puts power back in your hands. We'll take big money out of politics, we'll make every vote count, and we'll make government more accountable.



PENTICTON:  
John meets with  
locals at Cowboy  
Coffee.

## **Taking big money out of politics**

Our first piece of legislation will take big money out of politics. It will ban corporate and union donations, and set limits on individual contributions. We'll also ban out-of-province donations and require transparency from outside organizations advertising to influence the outcomes of our elections.

## **Making every vote count**

Our voting system hasn't been working. It gives all of the power to make decisions to a party that doesn't even get 50 per cent of the votes. We'll hold a referendum on changing our voting system to a proportional system, so that every vote counts. We'll ensure BC's regions are all represented fairly. And, we will campaign for the yes side.

## **Ending partisan waste and opening up government**

We'll start by ending waste on Christy Clark's partisan government ads. We'll work with the auditor general to set strong standards for advertising spending. We'll protect whistleblowers, strengthen conflict-of-interest legislation and improve access to information rules.

We'll also take action to protect your rights and your free speech and include you in your government. We'll put an end to frivolous anti-free speech lawsuits with anti-SLAPP legislation. We'll bring back the Human Rights Commission to stop discrimination. A BC NDP government will work for all British Columbians, and ensure government is inclusive to minority communities, persons with disabilities, racial groups, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community. And we'll form a youth council, to make sure young people's voices are heard by government.

British Columbians know that, after 16 years, the BC Liberals and Christy Clark are only working for their big donors and people at the top. It's time to build a better BC and get government working for you. We'll do that.

# A BETTER FISCAL PLAN THAT BUILDS A BETTER BC



Our responsible fiscal plan is built on the core principle that government fiscal management should be prudent, transparent, and sustainable. We believe that government should manage its budget responsibly, just like every family does, and work to reach a balance.

Balanced budgets should not come at the expense of vulnerable people and the services you rely on. For 16 years, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have been doing exactly that: making families like yours pay for BC Liberal choices.

Government is about choices. And Christy Clark is making the wrong ones.

Our plan will make the wealthiest British Columbians pay a little bit more, so you and your family can pay less, while we improve the services you count on. We'll also put an end to Christy Clark's partisan waste, saving you even more. And we'll do it with a plan to balance the budget.

## **Christy Clark's election budget still not working for you**

British Columbians have good reason to be concerned about Christy Clark and the BC Liberals' election budget. After years of neglect and priorities that put her wealthy donors first, she's hoping British Columbians will forget that she hasn't been working for you.

But, instead of telling a different story, her budget shows just how phony her promises are. She wants you to forget:

- › the \$300,000 second salary she took from her rich donors;
- › the billion-dollar tax break she gave to the richest two per cent of British Columbians;

- › the 1 million tax dollars she spent on personal photography;
- › that her government doubled MSP premiums;
- › that BC Hydro and ICBC rates have skyrocketed;
- › the \$15 million on partisan ads, this year alone;
- › the half million dollars she spent on private jets; and,
- › that she didn't create a single job from LNG, but promised 100,000;

Christy Clark wants you to forget that she spent the last five years working for the wealthy and the well-connected – not people like you. She wants people to believe she will fix the problems she created.

She didn't work for you after the last election, and she won't work for you after this one.

### **It is time for a government that works for you**

Our fiscal plan makes different choices than Christy Clark. These choices will:

- › Provide \$10 a day childcare – Christy Clark and her rich friends don't think this matters.
- › Eliminate MSP fees – Christy Clark has doubled these fees and can't be trusted.
- › Tackle the housing affordability crisis – Christy Clark let prices skyrocket.
- › Freeze Hydro rates and stop ICBC increases – Christy Clark drove up costs by \$1,000 for families.
- › Eliminate tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears - Christy Clark chose to punish commuters.

- › Support our schools – Christy Clark fought with teachers and shortchanged kids for 15 years.
- › Give dignity to seniors – 9 out of 10 care homes understaffed under Christy Clark.
- › Create 96,000 jobs building a Better BC – Christy Clark failed to create a single job from LNG.
- › Create an economy that works for you– Christy Clark is working for her rich donors.



**Every family works hard to make ends meet, pay the bills, and put food on the table. I believe government should do the same. We need a government that works for you.”**

**–John Horgan**

## A balanced fiscal framework

Our fiscal plan makes important investments for families and the economy while also being fiscally prudent, transparent, and sustainable.

- We will balance the budget in 2017/18.
- Our fiscal framework also balances in 2018/19 and in 2019/20, but we are concerned that Christy Clark’s pre-election budget does not reflect real needs in those years. We will aim to balance in every year as government, but not at the expense of children, seniors, families and the most vulnerable.

| FISCAL FRAMEWORK (MILLIONS)                | 2017/18    | 2018/19    | 2019/20   |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| Budget 2017 Projected Surplus <sup>1</sup> | 295        | 244        | 223       |
| New Revenue and Savings                    | 530        | 1150       | 1390      |
| New Operating Investments                  | (717)      | (1263)     | (1533)    |
| <b>PROJECTED BC NDP BUDGET SURPLUS</b>     | <b>108</b> | <b>131</b> | <b>80</b> |
| <b>CAPITAL SPENDING</b>                    |            |            |           |
| Budget 2017 Base                           | 8,083      | 8,063      | 8,383     |
| New Investments                            | 1,400      | 1,400      |           |

<sup>1</sup> Budget 2017 also includes forecast allowances and contingencies in each budget year. These are maintained in the BC NDP’s Responsible Fiscal Plan.

## Responsible and fair revenue and savings

We will make the following revenue and savings measures to pay for our platform commitments:

- ▶ We will end Christy Clark's billion dollar tax cut for the wealthy. In 2015, Christy Clark eliminated the top income tax bracket for incomes over \$150,000. We will reverse this tax cut, generating revenue of \$250 million each year.
- ▶ We will increase the general corporate income tax by one percentage point, from 11 per cent to 12 per cent. British Columbia will still have the third lowest general corporate income tax rate in Canada. We will reduce the small business tax rate to 2.0 per cent from 2.5 per cent, as shown in Budget 2017.
- ▶ We will tax speculation in our housing market. People who buy property in BC but don't live or work here and leave their property empty will be charged a two per cent tax on speculation, with optional municipality participation. All revenue collected will go into our BC Housing Affordability Fund.
- ▶ We will eliminate Clark's bogus \$500 million LNG Fantasy Fund. Christy Clark has not collected a single penny from LNG. Instead, in 2016 she raised your fees and put that money into her LNG Fantasy Fund. We will give that money back. We will take the \$500 million from the LNG Fantasy Fund and apply it directly to eliminating the tolls on the Port Mann bridge and Golden Ears bridge, as we work with mayors to find a fair and equitable solution for all regions over the long term.
- ▶ We will increase the carbon tax in accordance with the federal government's carbon pricing mandate. Revenue raised from the carbon tax will go directly to providing families a climate rebate cheque and investing in climate solutions that reduce carbon pollution and create jobs.
- ▶ We will redirect BC Liberal waste and partisan government spending to programs that matter, like education and healthcare. We believe there is a lot to be gained by reviewing how Christy Clark's spending benefits

the wealthy and well connected. For example, we will review oil and gas subsidies, eliminate partisan government advertising, end patronage positions like Gordon Wilson’s LNG sales gig, ground Air Christy, achieve administrative savings from eliminating MSP, and implement a fraud and tax avoidance task force. We will protect vital services and programs through any review.

- › We will also grow the economy and generate additional tax revenue by building schools, hospitals, roads, housing and transit. The econometric study that supports our capital plan estimates that for every dollar spent on public infrastructure \$0.29 is recovered in additional provincial tax revenue.

| REVENUE AND SAVINGS TO FUND PRIORITIES (MILLIONS)    | Partial Year<br>2017/18 | Target<br>2018/19 | Target<br>2019/20 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| End Clark’s tax cut for the top 2%                   | 125                     | 250               | 250               |
| Increase tax on corporate profits by 1 point         | 125                     | 250               | 250               |
| Empty housing speculation tax                        | 100                     | 200               | 200               |
| Eliminate Clark’s LNG Fantasy Fund                   | 120                     | 190               | 190               |
| Federal government’s carbon price mandate            | N/A                     | N/A               | 140               |
| Cleaning up BC Liberal waste and growing the economy | 60                      | 260               | 360               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>530</b>              | <b>1150</b>       | <b>1390</b>       |

## **Investing in building a Better BC**

Christy Clark has been making the wrong choices. She's spent millions fighting teachers, instead of investing in classrooms. She's filled expensive emergency care beds with patients who should be in long term care or at home with good home care support. She's wasted millions on botched software programs, partisan government ads, and huge salaries for BC Liberal insiders.

Our fiscal plan supports and delivers on our three commitments of making your life more affordable, investing in services, and creating good jobs and a sustainable economy.

By making different choices, we can deliver better services and make life more affordable, within a balanced fiscal framework.

| INVESTING IN BUILDING A BETTER BC (\$MILLIONS)  | Partial Year<br>2017/18 | Target<br>2018/19 | Target<br>2019/20 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Making your life more affordable</b>   |                         |                   |                   |
| Eliminate tolls on Port Mann and Golden Ears  | 120                     | 190               | 190               |
| Housing affordability programs and new renter's rebate  | 135                     | 265               | 265               |
| Implementing \$10 a Day childcare   | 175                     | 280               | 400               |
| Investing in climate action and rebate cheques  | N/A                     | N/A               | 140               |
| <b>Improving the services you count on</b>  |                         |                   |                   |
| Improving home support and residential care for seniors   | 20                      | 30                | 40                |
| Increased supports for mental health and addictions   | 10                      | 10                | 15                |
| Expand rural healthcare travel assistance for patients, including expectant mothers                       | 0                       | 6                 | 6                 |
| Fund drug research to make medicine more affordable   | 2                       | 2                 | 2                 |
| Caring for kids in care   | 5                       | 10                | 10                |
| Tackling student debt and investing in post-secondary education   | 45                      | 60                | 50                |
| Make Adult Basic Education and ESL free again   | 4                       | 7                 | 7                 |
| Increased funding for K-12 classroom supplies   | 0                       | 29                | 29                |
| Increased supports to violence prevention programs  | 4                       | 8                 | 8                 |
| Increase all income assistance rates by \$100, increase all earnings exemptions by \$200                  | 105                     | 210               | 210               |
| Support for the anti-gang WRAP program in Surrey  | 0.5                     | 0.5               | 0.5               |
| Strengthen access to justice and community safety with additional funding for legal aid and more sheriffs | 10                      | 15                | 20                |
| Annual support for Aboriginal Friendship Centres, community groups, and language programs                 | 3                       | 5                 | 5                 |

| INVESTING IN BUILDING A BETTER BC (\$MILLIONS)                            | Partial Year<br>2017/18 | Target<br>2018/19 | Target<br>2019/20 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Creating good jobs and a sustainable economy</b>                       |                         |                   |                   |
| Energizing BC Tech  | 40                      | 50                | 50                |
| Taking action for BC forest jobs  | 15                      | 30                | 30                |
| Growing good jobs in agriculture, food and beverage                       | 5                       | 10                | 10                |
| Restoring BC parks and hiring more conservation officers and park rangers | 5                       | 10                | 10                |
| Supporting safe, responsible mining                                       | 3                       | 5                 | 5                 |
| Making BC Ferries more affordable   | 0                       | 20                | 20                |
| Supporting BC's creative economy and the arts                             | 10                      | 10                | 10                |
| <b>Total new program investments <sup>1</sup></b>                         | <b>717</b>              | <b>1,263</b>      | <b>1,533</b>      |

<sup>1</sup>After 16 years of neglect, Budget 2017 provided desperately needed new money for services like health and education. Education saw an additional \$283 million following the Supreme Court decision, and health care saw an additional \$875 million. Our plan keeps all additional funding in Budget 2017 and adds to it.

## Investing in capital infrastructure to build a Better BC

Our capital plan, described in detail earlier in our Commitment to Good Jobs and a Sustainable Economy, focuses on building a Better BC by investing in the important infrastructure that makes communities stronger, spurs economic growth, and creates jobs close to home. For the past 16 years, Christy Clark and the BC Liberals have chosen to let British Columbia's public and social infrastructure deteriorate.

We will invest an additional \$7 billion dollars over currently budgeted capital allocations over five years (\$1.4 billion per year) starting in 2018 – and leverage another \$3 billion dollars over five years from partnerships with the federal government, municipalities, First Nations, pension funds, British Columbian financial institutions and businesses – for a total of \$10 billion dollars in new capital infrastructure spending over five years.

Our infrastructure plan will:

- › Create 96,000 jobs.
- › Increase GDP by \$17.8 billion.
- › Increase private sector investment by \$13.5 billion.
- › Provide thousands of apprenticeship and training opportunities.
- › Maintain one of the lowest taxpayer-supported debt-to-GDP ratios in Canada.

The numbers in our plan are supported by independent econometric analysis from the Centre for Spatial Economics. Their report – *The Economic Benefits of Public Infrastructure Spending in British Columbia* – was published in March 2017.

*“a sustained public infrastructure spending program can lay the foundation for future growth and prosperity in British Columbia.”*

*“productive public infrastructure reduces costs for private businesses – boosting GDP by up to \$2.09 per dollar spent – providing a compelling case for public funding of this capital.”*

*“British Columbia provincial government revenue rises \$0.29 per \$1.00 of spending.”*

Learn more about John Horgan’s capital infrastructure plan to build a Better BC in our Commitment to Good Jobs and a Sustainable Economy.



# OUR TEAM



Jasleen **Arora**  
Abbotsford South



Chak **Au**  
Richmond South  
Centre



Harry **Bains**  
Surrey-Newton



Lisa **Beare**  
Maple Ridge-  
Pitt Meadows



Garry **Begg**  
Surrey-Guildford



Nancy **Bepple**  
Kamloops-  
South Thompson



Bruce **Bidgood**  
Skeena



Jagrup **Brar**  
Surrey-Fleetwood



Bryce **Casavant**  
Oak Bay-  
Gordon Head



Gail **Chaddock-  
Costello**  
Langley



Spencer  
**Chandra Herbert**  
Vancouver-West End



Michael **Charrois**  
North  
Vancouver-Seymour



Katrina **Chen**  
Burnaby-Lougheed



Lyren **Chiu**  
Richmond North  
Centre



Raj **Chouhan**  
Burnaby-Edmonds



George **Chow**  
Vancouver-  
Fraserview



Andrew **Christie**  
Abbotsford-Mission



Katrine **Conroy**  
Kootenay West



Shelley **Cook**  
Kelowna West



Bob **D'Eith**  
Maple Ridge-Mission



Judy **Darcy**  
New Westminster



Mitzi **Dean**  
Esquimalt-Metchosin



Bobby **Deepak**  
Prince George-  
Mackenzie



Rob **Dempsey**  
Peace River North



Adrian **Dix**  
Vancouver-Kingsway



Doug **Donaldson**  
Stikine



Barry **Dorval**  
Vernon-Monashee



David **Eby**  
Vancouver-Point  
Grey



Scott **Elliott**  
Cariboo North



Mable **Elmore**  
Vancouver-  
Kensington



Mike **Farnworth**  
Port Coquitlam



Rob **Fleming**  
Victoria-Swan Lake



Natalie **Fletcher**  
Prince George-  
Valemount



Scott **Fraser**  
Mid Island-  
Pacific Rim



Rick **Glumac**  
Port Moody-  
Coquitlam



Stephanie  
**Goudie**  
Peace River South



Kelly **Greene**  
Richmond-Steveston



George **Heyman**  
Vancouver-Fairview



Gary **Holman**  
Saanich North and  
the Islands



John **Horgan**  
Langford-Juan de  
Fuca



Lori **Iannidinardo**  
Cowichan Valley



Carole **James**  
Victoria-Beacon Hill



Inder **Johal**  
Langley East



Ravi **Kahlon**  
Delta North



Anne **Kang**  
Burnaby-Deer Lake



Leonard **Krog**  
Nanaimo



Harry **Lali**  
Fraser-Nicola



Madeline  
**Lalonde**  
Vancouver-Quilchena



Ronna-Rae **Leonard**  
Courtenay-Comox



Sylvia **Lindgren**  
Shuswap



Michelle **Livaja**  
West Vancouver-  
Sea to Sky



Bowinn **Ma**  
North Vancouver-  
Lonsdale



Patti **MacAhonic**  
Chilliwack-Kent



Randal **Macnair**  
Kootenay East



Melanie **Mark**  
Vancouver-  
Mount Pleasant



Michelle **Mungall**  
Nelson-Creston



Barb **Nederpel**  
Kamloops-  
North Thompson



Tracey **O'Hara**  
Chilliwack



Morgane **Oger**  
Vancouver-  
False Creek



Erik **Olesen**  
Kelowna-Lake  
Country



Niovi **Patscakis**  
Surrey-White Rock



Lana **Popham**  
Saanich South



Sue **Powell**  
Parksville-Qualicum



Preet **Rai**  
Abbotsford West



Bruce **Ralston**  
Surrey-Whalley



Bruce **Reid**  
Delta South



Jennifer **Rice**  
North Coast



Selina **Robison**  
Coquitlam-  
Maillardville



Colleen **Ross**  
Boundary-  
Similkameen



Janet **Routledge**  
Burnaby North



Doug **Routley**  
Nanaimo-North  
Cowichan



Mehdi **Russel**  
West Vancouver-  
Capilano



Anne Marie **Sam**  
Nechako Lakes



Harwinder  
**Sandhu**  
Kelowna-Mission



Tarik **Sayeed**  
Penticton



Jonathan  
**Silveira**  
Surrey South



Nicholas **Simons**  
Powell River-  
Sunshine Coast



Shane **Simpson**  
Vancouver-Hastings



Jinny **Sims**  
Surrey-Panorama



Aman **Singh**  
Richmond-  
Queensborough



Rachna **Singh**  
Surrey-  
Green Timbers



Rebecca **Smith**  
Surrey-Cloverdale



Gerry **Taft**  
Columbia River-  
Revelstoke



Claire **Trevena**  
North Island



James **Wang**  
Vancouver-Langara



Sally **Watson**  
Cariboo-Chilcotin



Jodie **Wickens**  
Coquitlam-Burke  
Mountain

