

# Province of British Columbia

## STRATEGIC PLAN

2007/08 - 2009/10

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BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth

## GREAT GOALS FOR A GOLDEN DECADE

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1 *Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.*

2 *Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.*

3 *Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors.*

4 *Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.*

5 *Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.*

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# Vision

*To be a prosperous and just province, whose citizens achieve their potential and have confidence in the future.*

## GOVERNMENT'S CORE VALUES ARE

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- **Integrity:** to make decisions in a manner that is consistent, professional, fair, transparent and balanced;
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** to implement affordable public policies;
- **Accountability:** to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and the credibility of government;
- **Respect:** to treat all citizens equitably, compassionately and respectfully; and
- **Choice:** to afford citizens the opportunity to exercise self-determination.

## LETTER FROM THE PREMIER

British Columbia is the best it has ever been. Our economy is robust, unemployment is at the lowest level in 30 years, and British Columbians are feeling positive about our province and what our collective future can be. Our government is moving forward with actions to keep our economy strong, to improve the lives of British Columbians, and to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities that are before us.

Our government is continuing to build a strong new relationship with First Nations, concluding treaties and working to close the gaps between First Nations and non-First Nations in health, housing, education and economic opportunities. We are working to improve our health-care system and the health of British Columbians. We are working to ensure that we have vibrant, connected communities that are socially responsible and environmentally sustainable, and implementing a Pacific Leadership agenda. We are improving our competitiveness and productivity through education, skills training and immigration, and capitalizing on our position as Canada's Pacific Gateway to North America.

This strategic plan sets out an overarching vision for British Columbia and lays out government's priorities. Ministry and Crown agency service plans and annual service plan reports provide greater detail on how the government's goals and priorities are being implemented.

Implementing the vision outlined in this plan will help us to achieve government's Five Great Goals. Success will require the leadership, commitment and innovation of the provincial government, other levels of government including First Nations, communities, business, environmental groups and all British Columbians. Together we can show the world what is possible and make the best place on Earth even better.



Honourable Gordon Campbell,  
Premier

## WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH

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- Conclude treaties.
- Close the gap between First Nations and other British Columbians in health, housing, education and economic opportunities.



# FIRST NATIONS

## NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS

British Columbia's history has been marked by confrontation, litigation and failure to reconcile differences with Aboriginal people. For over 100 years, our relationships have more often been characterized by denial and confrontation than by recognition. This history has had a catastrophic effect on Aboriginal communities. Rampant poverty, prevalence of illness and chronic disease, inadequate housing, long-term unemployment, high levels of family violence, low high school completion rates and lower life expectancy are a reality in First Nations communities.

The government of British Columbia is developing a New Relationship with First Nations and Aboriginal people, guided by principles of trust, and by recognition and respect of rights and title. We have shared objectives of closing the social and economic gap between First Nations and non-First Nations over 10 years, reconciling Aboriginal rights and title with those of the Crown, and establishing a new relationship based on mutual respect and recognition.

The provincial government is committed to concluding treaties as full and formal expressions of reconciliation. Treaties give greater certainty over land and resources. They are a key means of advancing First Nations' interests in developing their economies and having governance over their communities.

In 2006/07, First Nations, British Columbia and Canada reached the final agreement stage for three historic modern day treaties. Government is working with First Nations and the federal government to conclude more in 2007 and beyond.

## TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE ACCORD

The Transformative Change Accord was signed by the government of British Columbia, the First Nations Leadership Council and the Government of Canada in November 2005. The accord sets out a priority to improve relationships between the parties through the reconciliation of Aboriginal rights and title. It also commits to close the social and economic gap that exists between First Nations and other British Columbians in health, housing, education and economic opportunities.

In November 2006, First Nations and the Province released the First Nations Health Plan – an agreed to set of actions that will be undertaken over the next 10 years. Under this plan, First Nations are improving their health governance structures and increasing their involvement in the planning and service delivery of health care for First Nations. Health outcomes will be closely monitored by an Aboriginal physician in the office of the Provincial Health Officer. First Nations, the Province and the





federal government also signed a Memorandum of Understanding in November 2006 to work together to develop a tripartite health plan by May of 2007 to improve integration and co-ordination between the health programs of all three groups.

Another key priority for government is to support Aboriginal communities in establishing their own child and family service agencies with delegated child welfare authority in recognition of the importance of culture and heritage and the need to preserve ties to the community and family.

To close the gaps in housing and infrastructure, First Nations and government have agreed to devolve up to 2,600 social housing units to the Aboriginal Housing Management Association. Government will work with First Nations to help them to develop knowledge and capacity in building maintenance and standards, and the construction and the management of social housing. In the next two years, government will allocate approximately \$51 million for the construction of 200 new off-reserve housing units and begin the construction of some of those units.

On July 5, 2006, the Province, the First Nations Education Steering Committee, and the Government of Canada signed a framework agreement that puts into place a process to recognize First Nations' jurisdiction over First Nations' education. It allows students to transfer between First Nations' schools and public schools, and allows graduates from First Nations' schools to be eligible for admission to post-secondary institutions.

First Nations are increasing their economic activity in the province. The Forest and Range Opportunity Agreements, and increased access to lands and resources through interim measures are creating new opportunities. Increased First Nations business development is being led by First Nations and supported by the government and private businesses in B.C. First Nations are working with government on other economic development initiatives that will support their economic independence and success.

## WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH

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- Improve and renew our health system while strengthening the *Canada Health Act*.
- Ensure that British Columbians have healthy, active lifestyles.



# HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

There are few things more precious to us as individuals than our health. The health of British Columbians directly affects our well-being as a province. Maintaining our health is key to our success as individuals. We all have an interest in improving our quality of life and lengthening it.

As a society we want to know that the services we require to maintain our health are in place and functioning well. Maintaining a comprehensive system of support for those members of society who may need greater assistance, such as seniors, vulnerable children or people with disabilities, is part of what defines us as a modern caring society. A first-rate publicly funded health-care system is one of our hallmarks as Canadians.

*Today one in eight people is over 65. In 25 years, one in four British Columbians will be over 65. The average cost of providing health care to someone between 55 and 59 is \$2,500 per year, compared to \$22,000 per year for someone who is over 90.*

But there are strains on our current system. New health-care technologies and treatments come at an increased cost, as do service requirements associated with our aging population. In 2007/08, British Columbia will spend \$14.2 billion on health care, or 39 per cent of government spending. Potentially, we could be spending 70 per cent of our budget on health care by 2017, a level that is unsustainable in the long run. We need to set priorities and manage our health-care system to make sure it is sustainable for the future.

## CONVERSATION ON HEALTH

The Conversation on Health is fostering a discussion among British Columbians to examine ways to make British Columbians healthier, and ways to improve and renew our health-care system while strengthening the *Canada Health Act*. Government is engaging all British Columbians across the province to better understand their priorities for health care and their recommendations for how to improve health-care services while ensuring they are sustainable. Their input will allow us all to define and enshrine in provincial legislation the five principles of the *Canada Health Act* and add a sixth – sustainability – that will ensure B.C.'s health programs and services

*Health care in B.C. costs \$35 million per day.*

*Actions such as these will allow us to achieve our great goals to:*

- \* Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness**
- \* Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors**



are available in the future. We need the Conversation on Health because British Columbians can – and must – find ways of making our health system sustainable for the future.

### **ACTNOW BC**

Each of us can make a tremendous impact on the cost and sustainability of the health-care system, and on the quality and length of our lives, by improving our own health. British Columbians are leaders in Canada and amongst OECD countries when it comes to healthy living and physical fitness. We have the longest life expectancy in North America and the second longest life expectancy in the world after Japan<sup>1</sup>. But we can improve our health even further by increasing our levels of physical activity, eating more healthily, and decreasing our consumption of unhealthy products such as tobacco.

ActNow BC is the most comprehensive health promotion program of its kind in North America. It helps British Columbians to make positive lifestyle choices, be active, and enjoy the good health they need to fully participate in society. By encouraging us all to make healthy choices, ActNow BC can deliver significant improvements in health outcomes, health system access and overall quality of life. Government is taking action to improve the health of British Columbians in significant ways, such as prohibiting smoking on all school property; prohibiting smoking in all indoor public spaces; banning junk food in vending machines in all provincially owned buildings; and supporting Silken's Active Kids. British Columbians must all do their part to improve their own health.

<sup>1</sup> Human Development Report 2005, an independent report commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme.

## WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH

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- Ensure that we have vibrant, connected communities that are socially responsive.
- Increase affordable housing, reduce homelessness and help those who cannot help themselves.
- Ensure that the activities of British Columbians are environmentally sustainable.
- Tackle the challenges of global warming and urban sprawl.



# VIBRANT, CONNECTED, ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

British Columbians have incredible spirit. Our sense of community is strong, and we love to celebrate our diverse cultural origins. Our diversity and spirit make our communities stronger and help us to be socially responsive. But we can, and must, do more.

Next year B.C. will celebrate BC2008, the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Crown Colony of British Columbia in 1858. Every community in B.C. is invited to participate in this year-long celebration of B.C.'s cultural diversity, community strength and widespread achievement. The Province has announced funding of up to \$20 million for Spirit Squares to help communities to create and enhance public outdoor meeting spaces where British Columbians can celebrate their community pride and spirit. Spirit Squares may take the form of a traditional town square or community commons. They will reflect the diversity of each community's citizens, their culture, their First Nations heritage and their local history. Pacific Gates will celebrate our province's significant Asian heritage and culture.

In 2006, the Task Force on Community Opportunities proposed to local government leaders that they take action to put in place more citizen-centred delivery of fire and water treatment services, and ways to make business licensing more seamless and business-friendly to encourage economic development. Local government leaders are assessing these proposals and have the opportunity to work with the provincial government and others to implement these ideas.

Ensuring that there are appropriate affordable housing choices for all members of society is a key concern for British Columbia communities. Many communities are also facing challenges addressing homelessness. The provincial government is providing \$40 million annually towards a new Rental Assistance Program that will assist 15,000 families. The provincial government has also expanded the Emergency Shelter Program to 1,300 year-round beds. Premier Gordon Campbell has challenged local government leaders to take specific actions to reduce urban sprawl and make housing more affordable. Increasing densities and reducing building costs can make housing more affordable and also have net benefits for the environment.

Government is promoting environmentally sustainable communities by investing in new initiatives such as the Green Cities Project to encourage cities to expand their networks of pedestrian paths, cycle ways, green ways and wheelchair-accessible green spaces. The Green Cities Project will promote, recognize and reward B.C.'s

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best designs and programs for encouraging physical activity, energy conservation and environmental benefits in communities of all sizes, and a Green Cities Award will be presented each year to honour and learn from the best practices that are being used across the province.

Towns for Tomorrow will provide \$21 million, over four years, for projects in B.C.'s communities with populations under 5,000. With the funding, communities may choose to make water quality improvements, develop recreation and cultural amenities, undertake environmental energy improvements, or invest in protective and emergency services infrastructure and community development. More than \$150 million in funding is available to all B.C. communities under the Canada/BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund for water and sewer infrastructure projects.

The government's new LocalMotion Fund of \$40 million in matching grants is aimed at getting people moving on their own steam and getting British Columbians out of their vehicles. The funds will be available to local governments to be used to help build bike paths, walkways and greenways, improve accessibility for persons with disabilities, and support programs to get kids playing in communities and parks.

An estimated \$50 million is available for cycling and pedestrian infrastructure for the Gateway Program in the Lower Mainland, that includes \$10 million of matching funds available to engage municipalities in linking into the regional cycling network. In addition, the Cycling Infrastructure Partnerships Program makes available up to \$2 million annually to help local government enhance the attractiveness of cycling as a commuter option. Government will also continue the \$2,000 tax break on hybrid vehicle purchases that is available to any British Columbian.

Community transition planning to assist communities affected by the mountain pine beetle infestation is identifying innovative solutions and opportunities for those communities to pursue new types of economic development.

British Columbia is globally acknowledged as one of the most beautiful parts of the world. We have many unique

ecosystems and dramatic geography. B.C. has taken unprecedented steps to preserve these special features for our children, grandchildren and visitors. A total of 13.8 per cent of B.C.'s land base is protected – the largest percentage of any jurisdiction in Canada.

While B.C. is a world leader in protecting our unique spaces and biodiversity, we must recognize that our global environment is changing. Setting aside unique ecosystems and encouraging British Columbians to lessen their impact on the environment will not be enough to address environmental issues. Our growing economy and population continue to put new pressures on our environment. For example, demand for electricity is expected to increase by 45 per cent over the next 20 years, and our increasing trade with Asia requires that we improve our transportation networks. At the same time, British Columbians are becoming much more conscious of our impact on the land, water and air. We are concerned about the challenges of climate change and are ready to lead Canada in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The provincial government will be releasing a new climate change action plan to tackle the challenge of global warming. The Province will also be releasing a new energy plan so that we can be electricity self-sufficient with environmentally sustainable energy sources and still have competitive energy costs. Conservation is the first component of meeting electricity needs, and a key component of the energy plan. If less electricity is consumed, fewer new sources of supply need to be developed.

Government will be introducing measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in transportation and increase energy efficiency in buildings, and will be setting new emission standards and new global targets to combat climate change.

To conserve water resources and improve water quality, government will introduce measures to improve groundwater drinking quality, and address waste water treatment. Government has committed to provide one-third funding for secondary sewage treatment in Victoria.

## WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH

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- Competitive infrastructure to open Canada's Pacific Gateway.
- A Pacific Coast collaborative to work with West Coast states on a range of common economic and environmental issues.



# CANADA'S PACIFIC GATEWAY

A new world order is upon us. It will be dominated by trade with China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, India and South Korea. China's economy has doubled in the last 10 years, and it has driven 30 per cent of the world's growth in GDP in the last decade. China is now Canada's second-largest trading partner.

British Columbia is Canada's gateway to the Pacific and, with ports closer to China than those in the mainland U.S., British Columbia can become a North American centre for Asia-Pacific trade.

***By 2020, container traffic with Asia is expected to increase by 300 per cent, and air passenger traffic is expected to double. Shipping from Asia to Prince Rupert saves 1,000 nautical miles of travel compared to shipping to Los Angeles.<sup>2</sup>***

Moreover, British Columbia's large Chinese and Indian communities create strong cultural ties to potential trading partners in Asia. This advantage, coupled with an open trading economy, a strong multicultural society and our reputation as a renowned tourism destination mean that B.C. is well positioned to build on our Asia-Pacific connections as the Asia-Pacific continues to modernize and grow.

But the world won't wait for us. Every country in the world is competing against us for a larger piece of the Asian economic opportunity. We need to establish our Pacific leadership agenda. We need to expand Gateway infrastructure and build stronger relationships with Asia-Pacific nations through such initiatives as inter-modal transportation links, cultural exchange opportunities, and educational partnerships and – with the federal government – immigration and international commerce links.

British Columbia will develop its infrastructure for B.C. and for the West to provide the same types of opportunities that the St. Lawrence Seaway did for Ontario and eastern Canada 50 years ago. Government will push for a unified Pacific Port Authority to ensure co-ordinated trade through all B.C. ports. We will work with the Northwest to establish an integrated port plan for the millions of container shipments that will come from increased trade. We will also work to establish an inland port at Prince George to move air, sea, and land cargo through to Asian and North American markets in record time.

<sup>2</sup> Based on shipping from Hong Kong to Prince Rupert.

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**\* Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in  
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As we open our northern and interior ports, British Columbia will use Public Private Partnerships or “P3s” to build the new South Fraser perimeter truck bypass highway. Other important infrastructure projects like the Pitt River Bridge and the Port Mann Bridge will get resources to markets. The Kicking Horse Canyon project will open up Canada’s gateway to the Pacific. Investments in airports, roads and bridges and critical improvements along Highway 97 and the Trans-Canada highway will create further links to markets and people beyond British Columbia’s borders.

British Columbia will launch a new Pacific Coast collaborative with Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California. Directly to the south of our province is the U.S. coastal region, with close to 50 million people. California alone has 36 million people and a GDP 50 per cent larger than Canada’s. The collaborative will provide an opportunity to work together on a range of issues, including climate change, ocean health and the environment, clean energy, transportation infrastructure, cross-border investment in emerging technology clusters, and initiatives in wellness and active living.



## WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH

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- Ensure that children reach school ready to learn.
- Ensure that our K – 12 education system puts students first so that they are successful in their education.
- Ensure that B.C.'s post-secondary system meets the needs of learners as well as businesses' need for skilled labour and professionals.
- Ensure that immigration can provide a supply of workers required by B.C. businesses to continue to grow and prosper.



## COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY

British Columbia's economy is performing at an exceptional level. We have the lowest level of unemployment (4.8 per cent), and the lowest level of youth unemployment in 30 years. Growth in GDP for 2006 is estimated to have been 3.9 per cent. In the past year, there was over \$19 billion in construction activity, the highest level of activity in B.C. history.<sup>3</sup>

But our economic growth and demographic realities are creating challenges for us. Over the next 10 years, British Columbia is expected to have one million job openings. That's 380,000 more job openings than there will be young people graduating from our high schools. British Columbia's robust economic growth and record low employment rate have also created a shortage of highly skilled people that businesses need to grow and expand.

Education and literacy are the foundation of success at school, at work and throughout our lives. Our economy is increasingly becoming knowledge based. To continue to be competitive in the world, we need to provide British Columbians with the opportunity to excel in terms of skills, training and knowledge. Enhancing literacy and people's education are paths to both personal and provincial success.

British Columbia students currently rank third in international reading assessments. But one million adult British Columbians – 40 per cent of all adults – do not have a high degree of competency with everyday reading,<sup>4</sup> 25 per cent of children entering kindergarten arrive without the necessary skills to be successful, and 20 per cent of B.C. students are not completing high school.

British Columbia's children need to arrive at school ready to learn and with a strong start to their reading and learning skills. British Columbia has launched a series of StrongStart centres, and will open more in the years ahead. StrongStart centres are free early learning programs for preschool-aged children who attend with their families and caregivers. Qualified early childhood educators lead literacy activities such as story telling, music and crafts to help children grow linguistically, physically and socially, and become comfortable in a school-like environment. These centres are located in schools with under utilized space and are part of government's plan to improve literacy skills so that B.C. children have the best possible start in school and in life. To address the need for improved literacy, the government has launched

3 BC Assessment Authority, News Release – January 2, 2007.

4 Statistics Canada, *International Adult Literacy Skills Survey (2003)*, November 30, 2005  
<http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/050511/d050511b.htm>

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- \* Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada**



ReadNow BC, a comprehensive \$27 million literacy plan to help British Columbians of all ages improve their reading skills.

For British Columbia to continue to excel as a province we need to have a modern responsive public education system. Government is taking bold steps to ensure that the education system provides students with the necessary skills to succeed in a knowledge-based economy that is increasingly subject to globalization. The education system must meet the needs of all kinds of learners so that all British Columbians are in a position to succeed, through the K – 12 system, and throughout their lives.

British Columbia's school boards will focus more on education so that they improve student education outcomes for all learners, and take a more active role in lifelong learning. Schools will enhance choices for students, such as providing year round or virtual programs, and there will be provincial schools of excellence. Students will know that they will receive a good education so that they can be successful in life.

To ensure that all students benefit from the ability to go to school, B.C. is putting in place a Children's Education Fund. Starting in 2007, \$1,000 will be put into the fund for every newborn in B.C. for their post-secondary education. The fund will grow with interest through their lives and contribute to their choice of learning after high-school graduation.

There is a strong link between a strong post-secondary education system and a strong provincial economy and society. To ensure we have a post-secondary system that is able to meet our future needs, the government's Campus 2020 review will shape the vision and goals for B.C.'s post-secondary system.

In addition to examining the structure and operation of the post-secondary system, more post-secondary education seats need to be available. 25,000 new seats will be available in post-secondary institutions in B.C., of which 2,500 will be post-graduate seats to ensure that highly qualified personnel are available in the province to feed our knowledge-based economy.

The need for skilled labour has never been greater in B.C., and its availability is a prerequisite for economic growth. Employment in skilled labour positions is no

**In 1993, approximately 56 per cent of B.C.'s labour force had some post-secondary education, increasing to just over 65 per cent in 2003. In that same time period, the proportion of B.C.'s labour force with a university degree increased from 15 per cent to over 20 per cent.**

longer secondary to university graduate positions. The Province will add 7,000 new apprenticeship spaces by 2010 to ensure that additional skills labour training is available. In partnership with the private sector, the number of industry training organizations will also be increased through the Industry Training Authority.

Immigration will be an increasingly important source of labour in B.C. Each year, approximately 40,000 immigrants from many different parts of the world move to British Columbia. People from the rest of Canada and around the world are attracted to B.C. for its access to key markets, technology, research and development and quality of life. With four out of five immigrants coming from Asia, B.C. has a strong connection to the Asia-Pacific. This connection not only enriches the multicultural nature of our province, it creates opportunities to build relationships, boost international trade and create investment opportunities.

B.C.'s aim is to increase recruitment efforts and to increase the number of skilled professionals and business investors who can obtain permanent resident status. We will promote the province's advantages and opportunities and increase international marketing activities to attract qualified business immigrants, expand the Provincial Nominee Program and work with our federal counterparts to reduce processing time for applicants.

Enabling and expediting the settlement of immigrants directly benefits immigrants as well as their local communities. Accordingly, the Province is building community capacity to support new immigrants and refugees through language training, settlement and adaptation services.

***People born outside of Canada are expected to fill one third of job openings by 2014.***





## CONCLUSION

British Columbia is riding the crest of a wave of success. We are experiencing unprecedented prosperity and fortune, but our world is changing around us. British Columbians must adapt to maintain our fortunate position.

We must continue to build a strong new relationship with First Nations. We must work hard to improve our health-care system and we must all take steps to maintain and improve our health. Vibrant, connected communities that are socially responsible and environmentally sustainable are a priority that will take the efforts of all British Columbians to achieve. Bold, new steps for education, skills training and immigration are vital.

We have a tremendous opportunity before us to ensure continued success for British Columbians. Implementing the priorities outlined in this plan with the support and effort of all British Columbians will allow us to achieve government's Five Great Goals, and ensure that British Columbia remains the best place on Earth.

# PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR GREAT GOALS

<b>GOAL 1 – Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent</b>	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
SCHOOL READINESS • % Kindergarten students entering school “ready to learn”	75% (2004/05)	Not available until 2007/08	85%
STUDENT LITERACY • Program for International Student Assessment Ranking	2nd in Canada 3rd internationally	Not available until 2007	1st in Canada Improve internationally
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION	79% (2004/05)	79% (2005/06)	85%
POST-SECONDARY COMPLETION	56% (2004) Canadian Average 57%	57% (2006) Canadian Average 59%	Exceed Canadian Average
<b>GOAL 2 - Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness</b>	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH	81 yrs (2004)	81.2 (2005)	>81 yrs
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIANS • More than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity per day	58.1% (2003)	57.7% (2005)	73%
BRITISH COLUMBIANS WHO ARE OVERWEIGHT	42.3% Lowest % in Canada (2003)	45.2% Lowest % in Canada (2005)	32%
TOBACCO USE	15% Lowest % in Canada (2003)	15% Lowest % in Canada (2005)	13%

<b>GOAL 3 - Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors</b>	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
DISABLED BRITISH COLUMBIANS WHO ARE WORKING • Of those who wish to work	44% (2001) Canadian 41.5%	To be updated with 2006 Census	56%
DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN IN AN AGE APPROPRIATE GRADE	86% (2005)	87% (2006)	95%
BRITISH COLUMBIA SENIORS LIVING IN INSTITUTIONS • Seniors 75 or older in health care or related facilities	10.3% (2001) 2nd lowest in Canada	To be updated with 2006 Census	Maintain Canadian 2nd place rank.
<b>GOAL 4 - Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none</b>	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
AVERAGE FINE PARTICULATE CONCENTRATION IN MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS	Vancouver is 2nd lowest in Canada (2004)	Vancouver is 2nd lowest in Canada (2004)	Lowest in Canada
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS* In 2007, B.C. will establish a new performance measure for greenhouse gas emissions and aggressive, economically viable targets in consultation with private sector organizations and other governments			
WATER QUALITY • % Of 30 B.C. water bodies with stable or improving trends	96% (2004/05)	96% (2006/07)	>96%
<b>GOAL 5 - Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada</b>	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
NUMBER OF NEW JOBS PER CAPITA	1 <sup>st</sup> (2005)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>

\*The green house gas emission targets in B.C.'s last strategic plan will be used as a basis on which to establish more aggressive targets.







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