

**Ministry of
Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**

**2014/15 – 2016/17
SERVICE PLAN**

February 2014



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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement



It's an honour for me to deliver this service plan for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, which lays out the actions this ministry will take over the next three fiscal years to build and maintain government-to-government relationships that create social and economic opportunities for Aboriginal peoples.

This ministry plays a critical role in ensuring we deliver on the B.C. Government's promise of economic development and community economic security. As minister, I will continue to meet with and work with First Nations and Aboriginal organizations across the province to build and strengthen those relationships. I will also continue to work closely with the business community to support their critical work in growing the economy, as well as building their own relationships with First Nations.

This ministry will continue to work towards the *BC Jobs Plan* commitment to create opportunities and resources for Aboriginal peoples to participate in natural resource activity in their traditional territories.

Liquefied natural gas represents an unprecedented opportunity for British Columbia, including Aboriginal communities. Our government has dedicated resources to assist industry working with First Nations when there are proposed development activities and major investment projects, such as liquefied natural gas and mining within their traditional territory. As minister, I will continue to work with my colleagues, industry and the federal government to ensure that Aboriginal peoples are well positioned to take advantage of the various jobs and contracting needs of industry.

Liquefied natural gas-related opportunities can be an important long-term source of benefits — which address health, wellness and other social objectives of Aboriginal communities.

This ministry will also build on the progress we have made in reaching innovative non-treaty agreements that bring benefits more quickly to First Nations' communities while also increasing economic certainty. More and more communities are seeing the positive economic and social results of these agreements, and we will continue to negotiate new reconciliation protocols, strategic engagement agreements, economic benefits agreements and revenue sharing agreements.

These agreements are not necessarily separate from the B.C. treaty process but can serve as building blocks to treaties and other forms of reconciliation agreements. We will continue to build on the momentum we have seen in the B.C. treaty process, because long-term treaties are the ultimate form of reconciliation. Both treaties and non-treaty agreements are key aspects of this government's vision for a strong economy and secure tomorrow for all British Columbians.

My ministry continues to support the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training to deliver relevant programs that increase the number of Aboriginal people participating in — and graduating from — our apprenticeship and skills training programs.

We will also continue our efforts to close the gaps that separate Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal British Columbians. We will continue to move forward with the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan. We will continue to work, in partnership with Aboriginal partners, the federal government and local governments to support education and job training.

The ministry continues to engage with the Métis community through ongoing work with organizations such as Métis Nation BC. Métis Nation BC is the governing nation for Métis people living in British Columbia and represents one of five governing members of the Métis National Council.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation has seen many successes in the past several years, but there is still a great deal left to accomplish, as we work to build partnerships and create opportunities that benefit not only Aboriginal peoples, but all British Columbians.

The *Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 2014/15 – 2016/17 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared and for achieving the specific objectives in the plan.



Honourable John Rustad
Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
February 6, 2014

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Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation is the B.C. Government's lead for pursuing reconciliation with the Aboriginal peoples¹ of British Columbia. A key component of reconciliation involves creating relationships that are mutually beneficial through collaboration and commitment. This includes working together to create a strong economy and a secure tomorrow so that all British Columbians, including Aboriginal peoples, are able to pursue their goals.

The *BC Jobs Plan* is facilitating transformational changes to British Columbia's economy. For us to continue to be successful, uncertainty created by undefined Aboriginal rights must be addressed. Government must work in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to improve their participation in the economy and their quality of life. Three foundational documents provide a framework for the ministry's work: the *New Relationship*, the *Transformative Change Accord*, and the *Métis Nation Relationship Accord*. There are many paths to reconciliation and the ministry uses a variety of tools and approaches to respond to the diverse needs and interests of Aboriginal peoples.

Negotiations - The ministry negotiates agreements to help create economic certainty over Crown land and resources and works with First Nations to meet their social and economic goals. Negotiated agreements stimulate investment, create jobs, expand economies in communities throughout British Columbia and provide a better quality of life for Aboriginal peoples. These agreements, which include treaties, strategic engagement agreements and revenue sharing agreements, support economic development and create jobs for British Columbians. Strategic engagement agreements, in particular, streamline the economic development process by defining how groups of First Nations participate in decisions regarding the development of lands and resources.



Minister John Rustad, Energy and Mines Minister Bill Bennett, Cook's Ferry Indian Band Chief David Walkem and Siska Indian Band Chief Fred Sampson celebrate an investment of more than \$7 million from a revenue sharing agreement from the expansion of the Highland Copper mine.

The ministry's participation in negotiations with First Nations also supports the Province's goal of securing opportunities and benefits related to liquefied natural gas. We are committed to ensuring that First Nations participate and benefit in liquefied natural gas opportunities by finalizing new arrangements that build on existing agreements with upstream, mid-stream and downstream First Nations. The ministry is also currently engaged in negotiations with First Nations whose traditional territory is in the area of a newly proposed refinery.

¹Canada's Aboriginal population is distinct and diverse. The *Constitution Act* recognizes the Aboriginal peoples of Canada as the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. "First Nation" is the generally preferred term for Indian peoples of Canada. The term Aboriginal as used throughout this document includes all people of Aboriginal ancestry, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit. The term communities means the diversity of Aboriginal communities as defined by Aboriginal people and includes descriptions such as urban, rural, metropolitan, land-based and reserve. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation works with all Aboriginal peoples wherever they may live in British Columbia.

The ministry has experienced great success in negotiations to secure non-treaty benefit agreements with First Nations and has already exceeded its original *BC Jobs Plan* goal of reaching 10 new non-treaty agreements by 2015. The ministry will continue to build on this success and work towards securing another 10 non-treaty agreements with First Nations across British Columbia by 2015

Partnership – Because Aboriginal communities include the Province’s fastest growing population of young people, it is important to provide opportunities for direct access to skills training and employment opportunities. The ministry works with other provincial ministries, such as Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, to increase capacity in Aboriginal communities through apprenticeship and skills training programs. These ministry initiatives, developed based on the *BC Jobs Plan* commitments, are supporting Aboriginal peoples to become the future of B.C.’s skilled workforce.

The ministry supports Aboriginal business development and success through a suite of initiatives and programs including the Aboriginal Business and Entrepreneurship Skills Training program, and the BC Aboriginal Business Awards.

The ministry also supports the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan, a multi-stakeholder, community-driven approach focused on better education and job training, healthier family life, and strengthened cultures and traditions for off-reserve Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia. Over the past year the ministry has made significant progress on the long term goals of the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan. For example, the Province signed agreements with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the federal government which commit all parties to work collaboratively in support of the off-reserve and urban Aboriginal population. In addition a social innovation competition, designed to generate new ideas that will have positive social impacts in off-reserve/urban Aboriginal communities, was developed, and community pilots in Vancouver, Surrey, Prince George, Kamloops and Duncan have been implemented to identify community priorities, initiatives and next steps.

Engagement - The Ministry engages with Aboriginal leadership organizations and communities, including the First Nations Leadership Council and Métis Nation British Columbia, on tangible initiatives to improve quality of life and address community priorities. Some of this work includes: initiating individual projects using an assets-based community development approach, youth engagement and capacity building, delivery of programs and funding, and the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women. The ministry also works with industry stakeholders to improve relationships with First Nations. The ministry continues to support industry through ongoing dialogue on building mutually productive, respectful relationships with First Nations. This dialogue is helping to provide proponents with certainty for future economic development in areas such as mining, forestry and tourism.

The ministry continues to build on the work of six industry engagement sessions co-facilitated with the Business Council of British Columbia in 2012. An important outcome of these sessions was the development of an action plan to be implemented in collaboration by the Province and the Business Council of British Columbia. Currently, the ministry and the Business Council of British Columbia are working together to complete various action plan items which focus on improving current business practices and providing greater clarity for industry on government’s existing policy and process for consulting First Nations.

Funding - Through the First Citizens Fund and other mechanisms, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation helps to facilitate Aboriginal business development and success through initiatives that support Aboriginal business and entrepreneurship. The First Citizens Fund supports the Aboriginal Business Loan Program and three Aboriginal Business Centres across British Columbia. The First Citizens Fund also provides financial support for initiatives including friendship centres, and the First Peoples' Cultural Council.

The First Peoples' Cultural Council is a provincial Crown Corporation formed by the government of British Columbia in 1990 to administer the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Program. The mandate of the First Peoples' Cultural Council is to assist B.C. First Nations in their efforts to revitalize their languages, arts and cultures. Since 1990, the First Peoples' Cultural Council has successfully distributed over \$20 million to British Columbia's Aboriginal communities for language, arts and culture projects.

The ministry also works with partners to help fund the following language immersion and revitalization programs: Language Revitalization Planning Project, Pre-school Language Nest Program, Mentor-Apprentice Program, FirstVoices and Language and Culture Immersion Camps.

The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund provides capacity and equity development funding as well as a share in revenues from clean energy projects.

Strategic Context

The *BC Jobs Plan* is transforming British Columbia's economy through mining, natural gas, pipeline, transportation infrastructure, clean energy and other major development opportunities. In order for the Province to take full advantage of these opportunities, legal requirements regarding Aboriginal rights must be addressed and Aboriginal peoples must be provided with the information and resources necessary to fully participate.

British Columbia is fortunate to have an abundance of natural resources, particularly natural gas. New technology allowing natural gas to be liquefied has helped to establish the Province's emerging role as an international supplier of liquefied natural gas serving various Asia-Pacific markets. The success of the *BC Jobs Plan* commitments to bring at least one liquefied natural gas pipeline and terminal online by 2015 and have three in operation by 2020 will be enhanced by strong partnerships with First Nations. The ministry will work with First Nations to confirm their support for liquefied natural gas development and ensure their communities benefit from liquefied natural gas opportunities.

Recently, British Columbia has enjoyed increased investment, employment and economic growth resulting from the improved investment climate and increased First Nation participation in local economies. Industry and developers have benefited from increased legal and economic certainty resulting from the increasingly positive relationships between British Columbia and First Nations.

Industry is supportive of British Columbia's approach with First Nations, whether that be pursuing long-term reconciliation through treaty, or through short-term agreements which facilitate better operational certainty and improved relationships.

In order to support the Province's plan to balance the budget and control spending, the ministry has initiated expenditure restraint measures, including adhering to government-wide Managed Hiring Guidelines, travel restrictions, and other operating cost- management initiatives. The ministry has participated in the core review process and is currently pursuing recommendations. The ministry is committed to meeting its fiscal objectives while minimizing negative impacts on stakeholders.

Economic forecast - The Economic Forecast Council expects British Columbia's real GDP to grow by 2.3 per cent in 2014 and 2.7 per cent in 2015. Risks to British Columbia's economic outlook include the potential for further slowing of domestic activity, renewed weakness in the US economy and slowing Asian demand. Additional risks include the ongoing sovereign debt situation in Europe and a fluctuating Canadian dollar.

Negotiation and implementation of agreements, including treaties - Reconciliation requires government to listen and respond to the particular priorities of specific First Nations, government agencies and the business community. British Columbia is a world leader in creating innovative new agreements. A broad range of agreement types contribute to achieving reconciliation and creating economic opportunities for First Nations.

Treaties and other agreements are important tools for First Nations to develop sustainable, healthy, resilient communities. Strategic engagement agreements and economic and community development agreements represent innovative approaches to streamlining consultation obligations and sharing new resource revenues with First Nations. These agreements, among others, help build relationships with First Nations, resolve conflicts, or address concerns associated with development on traditional territories.

Strategic engagement agreements with First Nations are intended to encourage a positive and respectful government-to-government relationship, strengthen B.C.'s investment climate and establish mutually agreed upon procedures for consultation and accommodation. For those First Nations who chose to also enter the treaty process, strategic engagement agreements can help to build the mechanisms to support decision making in a post-treaty environment. For First Nations not in the treaty process, strategic engagement agreements provide an opportunity to take a more active role in the decision-making process and develop a stronger government-to-government relationship with the Province.

In addition, the Province continues the work of reconciliation by seeking success through agreements, such as reconciliation protocols, at the community level. Reconciliation protocols increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish a process for shared decision making and create economic opportunities for First Nations communities building a stronger future for all British Columbians.

The various agreements used by the ministry to share revenues with First Nations target several natural resource areas such as Forestry and Mining. For example Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements provide First Nation communities with economic benefits based on harvest activities in their traditional territory.

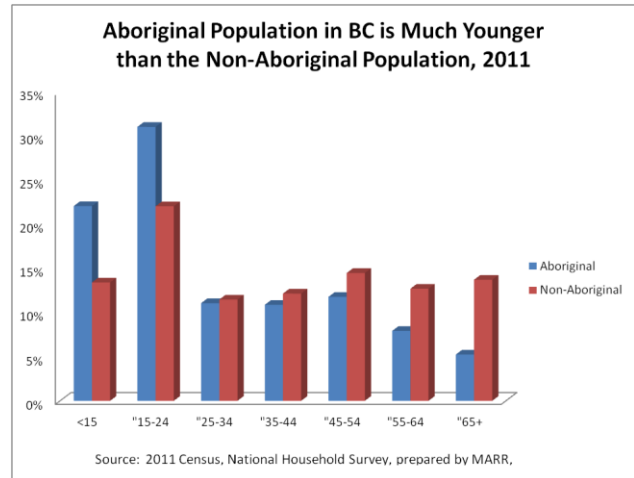
The Province committed to share revenue with First Nations as a means to create certainty on the land and to make First Nations partners in resource development. As part of commitments made in the Transformative Change Accord, the Province committed to seeking ways to address the socio-economic gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal citizens by working in partnership with Aboriginal communities. Revenue sharing agreements are entered into on a case-by-case basis with the impacted First Nations.

In 2014/15, a central focus of the ministry will be developing and negotiating benefit-sharing agreements with First Nations on liquefied natural gas development projects. These agreements will create economic certainty for proponents, and, in turn, support investment in the Province's liquefied natural gas industry.

Demographic and social factors - In British Columbia, the Aboriginal population is characterized by unique demographic qualities that inform policy and program decisions made by government. British

Columbia is home to over one-third of the more than 600 First Nations' communities in Canada, comprising the most culturally and linguistically diverse groups of Aboriginal peoples in the country.

In British Columbia the Aboriginal population is generally much younger than the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, nearly 45 percent of the Aboriginal population was under 25 years old compared to nearly 28 percent of the non-Aboriginal population. In contrast, only 16 percent of the Aboriginal population was over 55 years of age compared to 30 percent of the non-Aboriginal population.²



The B.C. Government engages Aboriginal youth on related provincial policy and program development. The ministry is working with youth to build constructive relations and promote leadership and mentorship. The ministry works with partners to focus on youth-identified priorities such as creative technologies, sports and recreation, and traditional arts and culture projects. British Columbia is also working with Aboriginal communities to ensure Aboriginal youth have the skills and training to take advantage of the demand for skilled workers.

Increasing urbanization is another demographic consideration. The 2011 Census reports that nearly 78 per cent of the Aboriginal population in British Columbia lived off-reserve. The majority of the Aboriginal population in B.C. lived in Vancouver (23.0 per cent); however, they comprised only 2.3 per cent of the total population in that city. The largest concentration of Aboriginal peoples was found in Prince Rupert (38.3 per cent of the total population), followed by Terrace (21.0 per cent) and Williams Lake (20.6 per cent).

Clean energy - The ministry has partnered with First Nations in British Columbia to support climate action and green energy initiatives and to generate new economic opportunities. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund was created as part of the *Clean Energy Act* to facilitate increased participation of First Nations in clean, renewable energy projects within their traditional territories. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund supports a diverse range of First Nations projects including several that have also successfully participated in the BC Hydro Standing Offer Program.

Since 2011, British Columbia has invested more than \$5.1 million and is supporting the participation of over 90 Aboriginal communities in the clean-energy sector, including wind energy, biomass and run-of-river hydroelectric power. In 2013, British Columbia signed the first four revenue-sharing agreements with First Nations. These First Nations are now sharing in the revenues received from clean energy projects based on new, net, incremental revenues to government. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund allows for revenue sharing with successful applicants, based on

² Source: BC Stats: 2011 Census Fast Facts

provincial resource rents, (i.e. land and water rentals), prescribed under the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund regulation, that result from clean energy projects that receive land or water authorizations after the enactment of the *Clean Energy Act*.

Goal, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Introduction

Over the past year the ministry's work in collaborating with First Nations to streamline economic development, create jobs and secure opportunities and benefits related to liquefied natural gas has remained consistent with the goals and objectives included in the *Revised 2013/14 – 2015/16 Service Plan*. However, some changes have been made to performance measures 1, 3 and 4 and are noted under each measure. In addition, Performance Measure 6, included in previous service plans has been removed because, although the work related to building public service capacity in Aboriginal relations is ongoing, the development of various resources to support this work, as specified in the measure, has been completed.



Minister Rustad and Minister Bennett celebrate the first revenue-sharing payment from the ECDA signed with Tk'emlups te Secwepemc and Skeetchestn Band of the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation.

Goal 1: Immediate opportunities for improved Aboriginal participation in the economy and increased certainty for development

Objective 1: Improved economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples

Strategies

- Negotiate and sign agreements with First Nations that create economic and social benefits, including resource revenue and benefits sharing agreements with First Nations impacted by industries such as mining.
- Work across government and in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to implement the *Transformative Change Accord* and *Métis Nation Relationship Accord*. Monitor and report on activities and progress on meeting these goals.

Performance Measure 1: Revenue sharing agreements

Performance Measure	2013/14 Forecast	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed revenue sharing agreements with First Nations	4	4	4	4

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Note: This performance measure includes estimates for completed economic and community development agreements only. In previous service plans economic benefit agreements were also included under this measure.

Note: The combined total of the 2013/14 forecasts and the 2014/15 targets for performance measures 1 and 4 are intended to align with the ministry's goal of securing 10 new non-treaty agreements with First Nations across British Columbia by 2015.

Discussion

The mining, tourism and oil and gas sectors create a wide range of jobs across the province that support families, accelerate economic growth and attract investment across the province. British Columbia is a leader in Canada in resource revenue and benefits sharing with First Nations. The Province is committed to sharing revenue with First Nations that are potentially impacted by resource development in their traditional territories. Revenue sharing agreements enable greater process certainty for the Province, First Nations and industry, shifting all parties into a partnership around development and solidifying support for project success. Economic and community development agreements, which are initiated on a case-by-case basis, are negotiated on projects such as major new mines and mine expansions and tourism initiatives like resort developments.

Performance Measure 2: Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements

Performance Measure	2013/14 Forecast*	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed agreements under the Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement program.	117	124	128	130

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

*Cumulative totals include the forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements that were signed in previous years.

Discussion

Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements share forestry revenues with First Nations based on forest activity in their traditional territories. Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements were launched in the fall of 2010 to replace forest and range opportunity agreements as these latter agreements expire.

Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements directly support the forest sector by streamlining consultation with First Nations through negotiated consultation protocols, and commitments by First Nations that improve stability on the land base. Developed in the spirit of the New Relationship, Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements also support the *Transformative Change Accord*

objectives; contain linkages to agreements that further reconciliation and progress to treaty; and support jobs and the economy by providing economic benefits to First Nations.

Objective 2: Respectfully reconcile provincial interests with First Nations’ Aboriginal and treaty rights

Strategies

- Support the conclusion of agreements among First Nations, the B.C. Government and local governments.
- Continue to seek improvements to treaty making through tripartite processes, including treaty revitalization.
- Link economic development to treaty through land transfers for current and future use.
- Work within government, with First Nations and with First Nations’ leaders to understand, clarify and seek solutions to issues involving Aboriginal rights and title.

Performance Measure 3: Treaties and related agreements

Performance Measure	2013/14 Forecast	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed treaties, incremental treaty agreements and agreements in principle.	2	5	5	5

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Note: The forecast and targets for this measure have decreased compared to targets published in previous service plans.

Discussion

The ministry negotiates and coordinates the negotiation of treaty, treaty-related, and non-treaty agreements to support successful reconciliation and secure a better future for all British Columbians. A treaty is considered to be the most comprehensive form of reconciliation between First Nations and government. Treaties address the rights and responsibilities of the Province, First Nations and Canada on matters including land ownership, governance, taxation, financial benefits, and environmental management (including wildlife). An agreement in principle is negotiated during the fourth phase of the six-stage treaty negotiation process. The agreement in principle outlines the major points of agreement between the parties. Incremental treaty agreements help to build trust and momentum toward treaty. They allow First Nations to realize benefits before treaties are concluded and implemented. For example, an incremental treaty agreement may allow a First Nation to develop an economic opportunity, provide employment for members or acquire culturally significant land parcels.

Goal 2: Reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia

Successful reconciliation produces long-term social, economic and cultural advantages for all British Columbians. Reconciliation is an ongoing process and it is rarely straightforward. It requires trust and commitment to overcome stumbling blocks along the way, and a willingness to learn from each other at all stages. Relationships built on mutual respect and recognition are key to making reconciliation possible.

Objective 3: Establish respectful relationships with Aboriginal peoples as a model for all British Columbians

Strategies

- Facilitate and support collaboration among Aboriginal organizations, all levels of government and the private sector on initiatives aimed at improving social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.
- Provide advice, guidance and direction to industry in engaging with Aboriginal peoples.
- Avoid confrontation and resolve issues.
- Engage with the First Nations Leadership Council to reach shared goals regarding improving First Nations' communities and increasing certainty on the land base.
- Work with other provinces, territories, the federal government and national Aboriginal organizations to initiate and coordinate efforts to address issues of mutual interest.
- Directly engage with business and industry on supporting First Nations' participation in liquefied natural gas development.
- Work across ministries to support Aboriginal peoples' access to programs and services associated with liquefied natural gas related skills development and training.



Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister John Rustad paddled into False Creek, along with members of several B.C. First Nations and other dignitaries, as part of the All Nations Canoe Gathering. The Canoe Gathering marked the beginning of Reconciliation Week in B.C., and coincided with the sixth national event of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Objective 4: Seek opportunities for early engagement of Aboriginal peoples on initiatives that affect their families and their communities

Strategies

- Support First Nations’ access to land and resource tenures.
- Negotiate and implement forms of reconciliation agreements with First Nations, which contribute to improved social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.
- Exceed the BC Jobs Plan commitment of 10 further non-treaty agreements by 2015.

Performance Measure 4: Strategic agreements

Performance Measure	2013/14 Forecast	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed agreements that support strategic engagement with First Nations, including reconciliation agreements, strategic engagement agreements, economic benefit agreements and clean energy business fund agreements.	7	7	7	7

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Note: Performance Measure 4 includes economic benefit agreements and clean energy business fund agreements which have not been included under this measure in previous service plans.

Note: The combined total of the 2013/14 forecasts and the 2014/15 targets for performance measures 1 and 4 are intended to align with the ministry’s goal of securing 10 new non-treaty agreements with First Nations across British Columbia by 2015.

Discussion

Non-treaty agreements focus on ensuring First Nations benefit from and participate in development opportunities, identify areas of common interest and create possibilities to work with First Nations to achieve mutual goals through meaningful engagement processes with First Nations. Specific elements of each agreement are flexible, depending on the parties’ objectives, local needs, and relationship history. Strategic engagement agreements establish a government-to-government relationship and improve processes for decision making. Reconciliation agreements are specifically designed to increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish a process for shared decision making and create economic opportunities for First Nations’ communities.

The ministry use tools such as non-treaty agreements to support B.C. First Nations that are impacted by natural gas extraction, pipelines or liquefied natural gas facilities to ensure they are provided with the ability to participate in this generational opportunity. The ministry will continue to use its innovative and flexible approach, including land, revenue and benefits sharing, strategic engagement and other agreements, to ensure First Nations are consulted and potentially accommodated on liquefied natural gas activities that may impact their Aboriginal rights. In addition, to complement liquefied natural gas related agreements, the ministry will work with First Nations to develop Aboriginal skills training programs and resources.

Clean energy business fund agreements:

- provide capacity development funding to support First Nations to undertake activities such as feasibility studies or to engage with proponents of clean energy projects,
- provide equity funding to qualifying First Nations to help acquire equity positions in clean energy projects or assist in the undertaking of their own community clean energy project, and
- share in the revenues from clean energy projects based on new, net, incremental revenues to government derived from water rentals, land rents and eventually wind participation rents.

Objective 5: Work with Aboriginal peoples to enhance and build capacity in Aboriginal communities, governments and organizations

Strategies

- Manage the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund and lead negotiation of carbon offset-sharing arrangements with First Nations.
- Provide economic opportunities through the implementation of treaties and other agreements with Aboriginal peoples.
- Support governance and capacity initiatives in Aboriginal communities, governments and organizations including working with First Nations through multi-sectoral partnerships such as the Tahltan Socio-cultural Working Group and the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan.
- Support Métis governance and capacity development on a tripartite basis.
- Work with Aboriginal youth organizations to support Aboriginal youth to develop their capacity and opportunities for engaging with government on issues of importance to them.

Performance Measure 5: Capacity building

Performance Measure	2013/14 Forecast	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of capacity-building engagements with communities, youth and Aboriginal organizations.	12	12	12	12

Discussion

This performance measure captures the work the ministry does to engage directly with Aboriginal youth, communities and organizations to build capacity through initiatives including governance support, community engagement, short-term work exchanges, job shadowing, human resource development and building youth leadership.

The ministry’s efforts also support government’s Diversity and Inclusiveness Strategy, and enhance initiatives such as the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program and the Building Public Service Capacity in Aboriginal Relations strategy.

Objective 6: Work across government to support the delivery of programs and services to off-reserve and urban Aboriginal populations

Strategies

- Work with provincial ministries to identify how to better coordinate programs to improve outcomes.
- Work with provincial ministries, Aboriginal partners, the federal government and local governments to develop an Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan.
- Undertake evidence-based research to support the Aboriginal action plan.
- Work with the five Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan's pilot communities (Vancouver, Surrey, Duncan, Prince George and Kamloops) to support the implementation of the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan including the development of work plans outlining key initiatives for future work.

Resource Summary

Core Business Area	2013/14 Restated Estimates ¹	2014/15 Estimates	2015/16 Plan	2016/17 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Negotiations and Regional Operations	13,537	13,537	13,537	13,537
Partnerships and Community Renewal	4,226	4,228	4,228	4,228
Strategic Initiatives	13,150	14,345	14,345	13,150
Executive and Support Services	3,862	4,385	4,385	3,862
Treaty and Other Agreements Funding	43,086	42,454	43,739	45,280
First Citizen Fund	3,030	2,830	2,830	2,400
First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund special account	1,811	496	1,422	1,750
Total	82,702	82,275	84,486	84,207
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services	1	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1	1

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2013/14 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2014/15 Estimates.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Appendices

Ministry Contact Information

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Hyperlinks to Additional Information

BC Treaty Commission

www.bctreaty.net/index.php

First Peoples' Cultural Council

www.fphlcc.ca/

Métis Nation Relationship Accord

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/social/accord.html>

New Relationship

www.gov.bc.ca/arr/newrelationship/down/new_relationship.pdf

New Relationship Trust

www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/

Transformative Change Accord

www.gov.bc.ca/arr/social/down/transformative_change_accord.pdf

A list of statutes that fall under the responsibility of the ministry can be found at:

www.leg.bc.ca/procs/allacts/arr.htm

Definitions of terms related to Aboriginal peoples can be found at:

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/index.html>