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BACKGROUND

Building for the future with British Columbia's largest-ever infrastructure plan

With B.C.'s population set to grow by more than one million people in the next 15 years, delivering the infrastructure and services that people need not just today, but also down the road, is key to maintaining a strong economic foundation and improving everyone's quality of life.

Budget 2020 makes new capital commitments bringing taxpayer-supported capital spending over three years to \$22.9 billion — the highest level in B.C.'s history.

Work underway on new and upgraded hospitals and health facilities, highway and transit projects, schools and new housing throughout B.C. is stimulating more than 100,000 direct and indirect jobs during construction.

As a growing province, these investments will help meet the increased demands for services and keep B.C. on the path to a sustainable future.

Investments over the three-year fiscal plan period include:

- **Health:** \$6.4 billion to support new major construction projects and upgrading of health facilities, medical and diagnostic equipment, and information management systems. Major projects include redevelopment of the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, new patient care towers at the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops and the Penticton Regional Hospital, replacing Mills Memorial Hospital in Terrace and building a new St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver.
- **Transportation:** \$7.4 billion for priority projects including the Pattullo Bridge replacement, the Broadway Subway, four-laning on Highway 1 through Kicking Horse Canyon and improvements to highway corridors in Delta, Langley and along the southern coast of Vancouver Island.

- **Education:** \$2.8 billion to maintain, replace, renovate or expand K-12 facilities in North Vancouver, Sooke School District, Quesnel, Coquitlam, the Greater Victoria School District, Vancouver, Abbotsford, and an addition to Valleyview Secondary in Kamloops. Many of these new and upgraded schools will also include neighbourhood learning centres and child care spaces.
- **Post-secondary education:** \$3.1 billion to build capacity and help meet the province's future workforce needs in key sectors, including health, science, trades and technology. Projects include a new health science building for students at the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Burnaby; new equipment to expand the CEDAR supercomputer at Burnaby's Simon Fraser University; and specialized equipment at the University of British Columbia's Vancouver campus, Vancouver General Hospital and BC Cancer Research Centre to support the development of personalized treatments for prostate, bladder, and kidney cancers. Additionally, the provincial student housing loan program will see approximately 5,000 new student housing beds built around B.C., from Terrace to Cranbrook, and Prince George to Victoria.
- **Housing:** As part of government's 10-year plan to work in partnership to create more affordable housing for British Columbians, more than \$1 billion over three years will support the construction of new low- and middle-income housing throughout B.C. This includes more housing for seniors, Indigenous peoples and families. *Budget 2020* also provides an additional \$56 million for 200 new units of supportive modular housing for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

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