

**Office of the
Premier**

**2020/21 – 2022/23
SERVICE PLAN**

February 2020



Minister Accountability Statement



The *Office of the Premier 2020/21 - 2022/23 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Honourable John Horgan
Premier
February 5, 2020

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Purpose of the Ministry

The Premier serves as the President of the Executive Council (Cabinet) of the Government of British Columbia. The Office of the Premier assists the Premier in overseeing and leading government. In addition, it supports the Cabinet decision-making process. As a central agency, the Office facilitates effective policy coordination across the public service and ensures a strategic and corporate level approach is undertaken on the development and implementation of key priorities. The Premier is advised by the Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service on matters of public policy, and management and operational issues. The Office of the Premier:

- Articulates government's goals, commitments and priorities through ministry mandate letters, and works with ministries and Crown agencies to ensure communication of those goals, commitments and priorities and to track and monitor their implementation;
- Leads the public service and, with the Deputy Ministers' Council, commits to be a top employer that maintains and enhances public trust, builds capacity, increases our competitiveness and manages for results;
- Provides support for the operations and decision-making processes of Cabinet and its committees; and
- Works directly with the federal, provincial and territorial governments, with governments in other countries and with all ministries and Crown agencies to ensure that relations with the federal, provincial, territorial and international governments advance British Columbia's interests.

Strategic Direction

The Government of British Columbia remains focused on its three strategic priorities: making life more affordable, delivering better services, and investing in a sustainable economy.

Ministries are actively working to provide quality, cost-effective services to British Columbia families and businesses. By adopting the Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens and Business and Economic Implications Framework to budgeting and policy development, Ministries will ensure that equity is reflected in budgets, policies and programs.

Additional key initiatives underpinning lasting prosperity in 2020/21 and beyond are the implementation of:

- A Framework for Improving British Columbians' Standard of Living which will provide the foundation for quality economic growth in our province and a pathway to a more inclusive and prosperous society,
- The *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, demonstrating support for true and lasting reconciliation, and
- The CleanBC plan, putting B.C. on the path to a cleaner, better future – with a low carbon economy that creates opportunities while protecting our clean air, land and water.

The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) expects B.C.'s real GDP to grow by 2.4 per cent in 2020 and 2.3 per cent in 2021. Meanwhile for Canada, the EFC projects national real GDP growth of 1.7 per cent in 2020 and 1.8 per cent in 2021. As such, B.C.'s economic growth is expected to outperform Canada's in the coming years. Risks to B.C.'s economic outlook include ongoing uncertainty regarding global trade policies and weak global economic activity, as well as lower commodity prices

and slower domestic economic growth. Meanwhile, LNG development in the province is expected to have a positive impact on B.C.'s economy.

The following performance plan outlines how the Office of the Premier will continue to track progress on key mandate letter commitments and other emerging government priorities.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: Establish government goals, commitments and strategic priorities

Objective 1.1: Establish government goals, commitments and strategic priorities

Provide a government-wide emphasis on creating a fairer and more inclusive society and developing opportunities for all British Columbians to have a better life.

Key Strategies:

- Set out the key goals, commitments and strategic priorities of government.
- Assign responsibility for the delivery of these goals, commitments and priorities to ministries, central agencies and crown corporations through mandate letters provided to cabinet ministers and/or government organizations.
- Lead the Deputy Ministers Council.
- Determine the priority sequence for the implementation of government goals, commitments and priorities, aligned with government's fiscal and delivery capacity.
- Monitor progress on implementing government's goals and priorities.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Forecast	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
1.1 Number of members of Deputy Ministers Council that are meeting performance expectations.	N/A	27	27	27	27

¹ Data Source: Deputy Minister's Office

Linking Performance Measure to Objective:

1.1: Within government's accountability framework, there are strategies in place to align the work of all staff with government's goals, commitments and strategic priorities. The Office of the Premier is responsible for the performance expectations for Deputy Ministers. This performance measure is new and is a better indicator of whether the work of government is in alignment with established goals, commitments and strategic priorities than the previous performance measure that tracked whether targets were in place for deputy ministers.

Goal 2: Provide guidance and direction for the Government of British Columbia

Objective 2.1: Lead the Executive Council

Cabinet Operations supports the Deputy Minister to the Premier in setting out the framework for Cabinet and Cabinet Committee decision-making.

Key Strategies:

- Assist and guide government ministries in the development of Cabinet Submissions, ensuring cross-government alignment with government's key objectives of making life more affordable, delivering the services people count on and building a strong and sustainable economy that works for everyone.
- Effectively provide the necessary and appropriate logistical support for the operations and decision-making process of Cabinet and its Committees.
- Ensure the complete, thorough and accurate recording of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee decision-making.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Forecast	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
2.1 Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

¹ Data Source: Cabinet Operations

Linking Performance Measure to Objective:

2.1: Cabinet committees and ministries provide prompt and effective advice enabling timely and well-informed Cabinet decisions benefiting British Columbians.

Goal 3: Foster intergovernmental relations**Objective 3.1: Works directly with the federal, provincial and territorial governments, with governments in other countries and with all ministries and Crown agencies to ensure that external government relations advance British Columbia's interests.**

The Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat advances British Columbia's priorities through leadership in intergovernmental partnerships and international relations.

Key Strategies:

- Engage the federal government in achieving B.C. priorities.
- Strengthen partnerships with other provinces through bilateral and multilateral co-operation on shared priorities discussed at the Council of the Federation, Western Premiers' Conference and other Premiers' meetings.
- Positively influence the policies and programs of other governments that affect the interests of British Columbia through enhanced economic, cultural and diplomatic ties, programs and advocacy.
- Advance B.C.'s priorities through strategic engagement with international partners, including Global Affairs Canada, the diplomatic community, and international organizations.
- Maintain regional leadership and promote shared priorities through the Pacific Coast Collaborative, Cascadia Innovation Corridor, British Columbia's participation in the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and other opportunities as they arise.

- Identify alignment and pursue opportunities to develop and strengthen bilateral relationships with U.S. state governments.
- Lead and coordinate government diplomatic, protocol and ceremonial activities that are key to advancing B.C.'s priorities.
- Advocate for and defend B.C.'s interests in partnership with the Canadian federal government, other provincial and territorial governments, and likeminded U.S. state governments.
- Lead and coordinate government initiatives and partnerships to support French services in British Columbia, and lead B.C.'s engagement with the Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie.

Performance Measure	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Forecast	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
3.1 Progress on key intergovernmental objectives ¹	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

¹ Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Linking Performance Measure to Objective:

3.1: Cabinet is informed on a regular basis of upcoming intergovernmental meetings and initiatives, including comprehensive strategic advice on engaging the federal and other governments.

Resource Summary

Core Business Area	2019/20 Restated Budget ¹	2020/21 Estimate	2021/22 Plan	2022/23 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	3,413	3,258	3,258	3,258
Cabinet Operations	1,866	1,788	1,788	1,788
Executive and Support Services	6,070	6,288	6,288	6,288
Premier's Office	3,246	3,600	3,600	3,600
Corporate Services	2,824	2,688	2,688	2,688
Total	11,349	11,334	11,334	11,334
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 2019/20 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2020/21 Estimates.				

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