

**Office of the
Premier**

**2021/22 – 2023/24
SERVICE PLAN**

April 2021



Minister's Accountability Statement



The *Office of the Premier 2021/22 – 2023/24 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 stroke at the end.

Honourable John Horgan
Premier
April 8, 2021

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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

In 2021/22 British Columbians continue to face significant challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic. The Government of British Columbia is continually evolving to meet the changing needs of people in this province. Government has identified five foundational principles that will inform each ministry's work and contribute to COVID recovery: putting people first, lasting and meaningful reconciliation, equity and anti-racism, a better future through fighting climate change and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction commitments, and a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly reduced economic activity in B.C. in 2020. The ongoing evolution and economic cost of the pandemic on B.C. and its trading partners remains highly uncertain. The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) estimates a 5.1 per cent decline in B.C. real GDP in 2020 and expects growth of 4.9 per cent in 2021 and 4.3 per cent in 2022. Meanwhile for Canada, the EFC projects national real GDP growth of 4.7 per cent in 2021 and 4.2 per cent in 2022, following an estimated decline of 5.4 per cent in 2020. As such, B.C.'s economic growth is expected to outperform Canada's in the coming years. The pandemic has increased risks to B.C.'s economic outlook, such as the timing of the global vaccination rollout, extended travel restrictions, a weaker global recovery, and the continued impact of a slower recovery in some

sectors of the B.C. economy. Further risks include ongoing uncertainty regarding global trade policies and lower commodity prices.

This 2021/22 service 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 focus on fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care, delivering affordability and security and investing in good jobs and livelihoods including in a clean energy future.

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.
- Supported by the recently established Priorities and Planning Secretariat, 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(s)	2020/21 Forecast	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
1.1 Number of members of Deputy Ministers Council that are meeting performance expectations.	32	32	32	32

Data source: Deputy Minister's Office

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

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 of Deputy Ministers. This performance measure is an indicator of whether the work of government is in alignment with established goals, commitments and strategic priorities.

Goal 2: Provide guidance and direction for 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 commitments and priorities.
- Support the COVID pandemic response and economic recovery.
- 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(s)	2020/21 Forecast	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
2.1 Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans.	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Cabinet Operations

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

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: Work 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 with federal government, provinces and territories to effectively manage impacts of the global pandemic and advance B.C.'s priorities, including federal transfers and support programs for people and businesses.
- Strengthen partnerships with federal government and other provinces and territories through bilateral and multilateral cooperation on shared priorities discussed at First Ministers' meetings, the Council of the Federation, Western Premiers' Conference, and other Premiers' meetings.
- Identify alignment and pursue opportunities to develop and strengthen bilateral relationships with U.S. state governments and promote B.C.'s interests and objectives through the Pacific Coast Collaborative, Cascadia Innovation Corridor, British Columbia's participation in the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and other opportunities as they arise.
- Advance British Columbia's priorities through strategic engagement with international partners, including Global Affairs Canada, the diplomatic community, and international organizations.
- Lead and coordinate government diplomatic, protocol and ceremonial activities, and maintain relationship with consular corps.
- 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(s)	2020/21 Forecast	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
3.1 Progress on key intergovernmental objectives	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

Cabinet is informed on a regular basis on upcoming intergovernmental meetings and initiatives, including comprehensive strategic advice on engagement with the federal and other governments.

Financial Summary

Core Business Area	2020/21 Restated Estimates ¹	2021/22 Estimates	2022/23 Plan	2023/24 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	3,258	3,478	3,478	3,478
Cabinet Operations	1,788	2,097	2,097	2,097
Planning and Priorities Secretariat	0	1,605	1,605	1,605
Executive and Support Services	6,288	7,498	7,498	7,498
Premier's Office	3,600	4,810	4,810	4,810
Deputy Minister's Office	2,688	2,688	2,688	2,688
Total	11,334	14,678	14,678	14,678
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 2020/21 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2021/22 *Estimates*.

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