

# Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

## 2026/27 – 2028/29 Service Plan

February 2026



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## Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport 2026/27 – 2028/29 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 black ink that reads "Anne Kang".

Honourable Anne Kang  
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport  
February 6, 2026

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## Strategic Direction

In 2026/27, the Government of British Columbia will prioritize support for people by taking action to make life better for everyone.

Despite a challenging fiscal environment due to global uncertainty, trade relationship reordering, and low resource prices, over the past year Government made significant progress on efforts to reduce costs for British Columbians, hire more doctors and nurses, and build more homes, hospitals and schools, faster. Government will continue to advance these key priorities even as tariffs, trade policies, and instability outside of the province's borders continue to put pressure on the province's finances.

Ongoing fiscal pressure means all parts of Government must continue to do their part to maximize efficiencies and make sure every dollar counts.

To respond to these extraordinary times, Government will focus on expanding trade and investment both within Canada and abroad and delivering major projects that offer good jobs and opportunities for people and communities. This focus on economic growth and prosperity is critical to delivering the revenue needed to provide services and infrastructure.

Good relationships and mutually beneficial partnerships with First Nations are critical to building a better future for everyone in British Columbia. Government will continue working diligently to implement the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan. Through collaboration and open dialogue, we aim to foster trust, stability and certainty for all.

This 2026/27 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport will support the Government's priorities and selected action items identified in the Minister's most recent [Mandate Letter](#).

## Purpose of the Ministry

The vision of the [Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport](#) is that people and communities across B.C. are vibrant and thriving, with a diversity of opportunities that enrich well-being and support a strong, sustainable economy. The Ministry contributes to economic and social well-being and resiliency in communities by creating conditions for B.C.'s tourism, arts, culture, sport, creative, heritage and not-for-profit sectors to thrive.

The Ministry oversees five Crown corporations: [Destination BC](#), the [BC Pavilion Corporation](#), the [Royal BC Museum](#), the [Knowledge Network](#), and the [BC Games Society](#). The Ministry also provides oversight to the [Office of the BC Athletic Commissioner](#).

The Ministry works with [viaSport](#) to support quality, inclusive, and accessible sports across B.C. It also works with the [BC Arts Council](#) to support cultural and artistic diversity in the province. Furthermore, the Ministry collaborates with [Creative BC](#) to grow the economic impact of B.C.'s creative sector, support sustainable employment, and showcase B.C.-owned creative content and production capabilities on a global scale. The Ministry also oversees the Community

Gaming Grants program, supporting volunteer-driven, community not-for-profits across the province in six unique sectors: arts and culture, sport, public safety, environment, parent advisory and district parent advisory councils, and human and social services.

Delivery of the Ministry mandate is guided by key legislation, including the [Arts Council Act](#), the [Athletic Commissioner Act](#), the [Destination BC Corp. Act](#), the [B.C. Pavilion Corporation Act](#), the [Museum Act](#), the [Pacific National Exhibition Enabling and Validating Act](#), the [Knowledge Network Corporation Act](#), the [Hotel Guest Registration Act](#), the [Hotel Keepers Act](#), the [Pacific National Exhibition Incorporation Act](#), the [Tourism Act](#), the [Resort Timber Administration Act](#), the [Gaming Control Act](#) and delegated authorities under the [Land Act](#), [Forest Act](#), [Heritage Conservation Act](#), and the [Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act](#).

## Economic Statement

B.C.'s economy saw mixed performance among sectors in 2025 amid U.S. tariffs and related global economic uncertainty and declining B.C. population growth. Consumer spending was strong through the first half of the year, supported by front-loaded spending ahead of U.S. tariffs (particularly for automobiles), lower inflation and interest rates, but spending has slowed in recent months. Residential construction remained above average in 2025 despite declining from the high levels of activity seen in recent years, and home sales were subdued in 2025. Meanwhile other investment indicators (such as public sector investment and commercial building permits) saw steady growth despite headwinds from economic uncertainty. B.C.'s exports have been resilient amid U.S. tariffs. The value of international exports was unchanged as lower forestry exports and coal prices offset higher values of natural gas and copper exports.

The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) estimates that B.C. real GDP grew by 1.5 per cent in 2025. In the near-term, the EFC expects B.C.'s economy to also grow by 1.5 per cent in 2026 and by 1.9 per cent in 2027, similar to the national average. For Canada, the EFC estimates growth of 1.6 per cent in 2025 and projects national real GDP growth of 1.3 per cent in 2026 and 1.9 per cent in 2027.

A volatile global trade conflict as well as immigration and population fluctuations are the main risks to the outlook. Other risks include commodity price instability, renewed inflationary pressures leading to elevated interest rates, prolonged housing market weakness, and climate change impacts.

## Performance Planning

### Goal 1: British Columbia's tourism economy is resilient and growing sustainably.

#### Performance Measure

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[1] BC tourism industry revenue <sup>1</sup>	24.2B <sup>2</sup>	+5%	+5%	+6%

<sup>1</sup> Data source: BC Stats. Gross Revenue is measured on a calendar year basis.

<sup>2</sup> Service Plan Change: The '2024/25 Actual' value of \$23.0 B now represents Gross Revenue (including consumer taxes), forming the basis of the '2025/26 Forecast' and all revised future targets. This replaces the previous net of tax approach to ensure consistency with Statistics Canada and other spending data sources, aligns with reporting from other provinces, and to improve accuracy and alignment with strategic communications.

#### Objective 1.1: Support the sustainable growth of the tourism sector.

#### Objective 1.2: Focus tourism-related policies and investments on creating healthy, inclusive, resilient communities.

### Goal 2: Grow, strengthen and sustain British Columbia's arts, culture and creative sectors.

#### Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[2.1a] Percentage of BC Arts Council grants awarded to underserved demographic groups <sup>1</sup>	47% <sup>2</sup>	Maintain at 47%	Maintain at 47%	Maintain at 47%
[2.1b] Percentage of BC Arts Council grants to artists and organizations located in regional areas <sup>3</sup>	35% <sup>4</sup>	Maintain at 35%	Maintain at 35%	Maintain at 35%

Data source: BC Arts Council Grant Management System. The forecast incorporates both approved grants and statistically informed estimates of grants currently under review or pending approval.

<sup>1</sup> Underserved demographic groups are defined for this purpose as Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit) Peoples; Deaf or experience disability; Black or people of colour, as identified in the current Designated Priority Groups policy.

<sup>2</sup> The previous service plan projected annual participation targets of 35% for PM 2.1a. These targets have been adjusted to align with updated projected forecast.

<sup>3</sup> Regional artists and organizations are those located outside greater Vancouver or the capital region also known as greater Victoria, as identified in the current Designated Priority Groups policy. The forecast includes all funding provided through BC Arts Council programs but does not include recipients of grants delivered through the BC Arts Council partner programs (First People's Cultural Council, BC Touring Council, ArtStarts, Creative BC).

<sup>4</sup> The forecast is based on the average number of grants awarded from the past two years.

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[2.2] Number of organizations supported for capital infrastructure projects	78 <sup>1</sup>	Maintain or increase	Maintain or increase	Maintain or increase

Data source: BC Arts Council and Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. Performance measure relates to cultural infrastructure supported through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport and includes: BC Arts Council Arts Infrastructure Program ; investment in the Royal BC Museum Provincial Archives, Research and Collections (PARC) facility; the Chinese Canadian Museum, the development of a Canadians of South Asian heritage museum and a provincial Filipino cultural centre, as well as investment in the Vancouver Art Gallery, the redevelopment of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria; and Community Gaming Grants Capital Projects Grant Program which funded 13 arts and culture not-for-profits \$1.25M in 2024/25. For the 2025/26 year, Capital Project Grants funded nine arts and culture not-for-profit organizations for \$745K.

<sup>1</sup>The March 2025 Service Plan did not include the Community Gaming Grants Capital Projects Grant Program or account for ongoing work to support relevant capital infrastructure project investments.

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[2.3] Value of annual economic contribution across B.C.'s creative sector	Maintain or increase	Maintain or increase	Maintain or increase	Maintain or increase

Data source: Statistics are internally compiled from Creative BC's Creative Industries Economic Results Assessment (CIERA), which is updated annually. According to CIERA, the creative sector produced an estimated \$7.287B in total GDP in 2024. The forecast above refers to maintaining or increasing that baseline level. Refinements to federal public datasets and methodology from Statistics Canada may result in adjustments to the 2024 baseline number, in which case the targets refer to maintaining or increasing revised 2024 GDP numbers.

**Objective 2.1: Support arts and culture development in British Columbia so that the sector is vibrant, resilient, and recognized for its diversity and vitality.**

**Objective 2.2: Invest in cultural infrastructure.**

**Objective 2.3: Support the economic strength and resiliency of B.C.'s creative sector.**



## Goal 3: Ensure accessible, safe and inclusive sport opportunities for all British Columbians.

### Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[3.1] Number of children, from population groups typically under-represented in sport, reached through targeted sport programs <sup>1</sup>	29,000	32,000	32,000	32,000

Data source:

<sup>1</sup>Total number of children reached through programs delivered by the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council (I-SPARC), KidSport BC, and the After School Sport and Arts Initiative (ASSAI) administered by the Ministry. Baseline data is from I-SPARC's 2022/23 Annual Report, KidSport BC's 2022 Annual Report, and ASSAI reporting from the 2022/23 school year. The previous service plan projected annual participation targets of 36,000. These targets have been adjusted to align with updated forecasts and operational realities. The number of children reached through targeted sport programs in 2024/25 was 33,787.

Performance Measure	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
[3.2] Number of communities that host sport events <sup>1</sup>	40	40	40	40

Data source:

<sup>1</sup>Program funding summaries for [Hosting BC](#) and the [Major Sport Event Hosting Program](#).

**Objective 3.1: Collaborate with communities and partners to reduce barriers to inclusivity in sport and increase participation.**

**Objective 3.2: Provide opportunities for athletes, coaches and officials to develop and compete in communities across the province.**

**Objective 3.3: Contribute to tourism, economic, social and sport development growth through investing in sport events in communities across the province.**

## Financial Summary

(\$000s)	2025/26 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Plan	2028/29 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Tourism Sector Strategy	26,026	26,012	25,616	25,616
Arts and Culture	41,437	41,115	37,890	37,890
Sport and Creative Sector	27,134	26,951	26,921	26,921
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	88,432	87,464	85,464	85,464
Executive Support Services	2,335	2,219	2,219	2,219
BC Arts and Culture Endowment Fund	4,230	4,230	4,230	4,230
Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports Fund	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>190,794</b>	<b>189,191</b>	<b>183,540</b>	<b>183,540</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>				
Executive Support Services	3	3	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Capital Funding Vote</b>				
B.C. Pavilion Corporation Capital Fund	59,222	27,279	10,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,222</b>	<b>27,279</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions</b>				
Tourism Development				
Disbursements	600	600	600	600
Receipts	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2025/26 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2026/27 Estimates.

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

## Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of February 2026, the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

### **BC Arts Council**

The BC Arts Council (BCAC) was created in 1995 as an agency of the province of British Columbia under the Arts Council Act. The BCAC nurtures and supports arts and cultural activity in communities across British Columbia.

### **BC Games Society**

The BC Games Society is the organization responsible for setting the ongoing policy and direction of the BC Winter and BC Summer Games and supporting Team BC at the Canada Games.

### **BC Pavilion Corporation**

BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo) is a Provincial Crown Corporation. PavCo owns and operates two world-class public facilities located in downtown Vancouver: BC Place and the Vancouver Convention Centre.

### **Creative BC**

Creative BC is an independent society created and supported by the provincial government to sustain and help grow British Columbia's creative industries.

### **Destination British Columbia**

Destination BC is a provincially funded, industry-led Crown corporation that supports a strong and competitive future for BC's tourism industry.

### **Knowledge Network Corporation**

Knowledge Network is B.C.'s public educational broadcaster and provides programs that educate, challenge and inspire. The Crown Corporation also supports independent B.C. filmmakers through commissioning and pre-licensing of new programs.

### **Royal British Columbia Museum**

The Royal BC Museum, which encompasses the provincial archives, operates as a Crown corporation. As a cultural hub for learning, the museum is dedicated to deepening our understanding through its collections, and exhibitions.

### **Medal of Good Citizenship Committee**

The BC Medal of Good Citizenship celebrates British Columbians who have acted in a particularly generous, kind or selfless manner for the common good without expectation of reward.

## Appendix B: Minister Mandate Letter



July 17, 2025

Honourable Anne Kang  
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture  
and Sport  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Kang:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport at a critical time for our province. Serving as a member of the executive council is a privilege and responsibility which I am confident you will fulfill with integrity and a commitment to the people of our province.

British Columbians have trusted us with a mandate to deliver for them in ways that make a tangible difference in their daily lives. They expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and work together to make things better for everyone.

Specifically, we will tackle the challenges people worry about at the kitchen table:

- **Grow the economy by creating good jobs across British Columbia.** We will collaborate with businesses, workers, and communities to attract investments in both new and traditional sectors as well as emerging sectors of the economy. This approach will bring certainty for business, security for workers, and generate the wealth needed to support the essential services British Columbians rely on.
- **Reduce costs for families,** including by helping people access homes they can afford through support for first-time homebuyers, increasing the supply of rental housing stock, and stronger measures to crack down on housing speculation.

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- **Strengthen health care** by expanding access to family doctors and recruiting and training more health professionals, ensuring that every British Columbian can access the care they need, no matter where they live. We will also increase access to addictions treatment and provide help for people whose struggles require intensive supports.
- **Make our neighbourhoods and communities safer** by working with law enforcement and social agencies to address street disorder, crack down on organized crime, and do all we can to ensure repeat offenders stay behind bars.

Our commitment to take action on climate change remains foundational and will be key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples. Advancing reconciliation, implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and working in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests is the responsibility of every Minister.

Over this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport programs and initiatives to ensure our programs remain relevant, are efficient, respond to the needs of tourism service providers and arts organizations, grow the economy and help keep British Columbia as a world class tourism destination. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints and the priorities of communities in the province.
- Work with communities to support the development of recreation centres, community centres, arts and cultural centres, sports fields and other critical social infrastructure.
- Support communities in delivering community events such as fairs and festivals that bring people together.
- Continue to support BC's film, television and animation sectors. In addition, support the Minister of Jobs and Economic Growth to maximize film and motion picture investment and employment opportunities in BC.
- Continue to support tourism as a strong pillar of the BC economy by working with the sector to enhance economic growth and community vibrancy, sustainably promoting BC's unmatched geography and diverse experiences and continuing to support rural and Indigenous tourism opportunities.

- Continue to support accessibility of amateur sport for all British Columbians.
- Leverage the opportunities provided by the Invictus Games, the FIFA World Cup in 2026 and other major event bid proposals to maximize the economic development and tourism impact of major events across the province.
- Support the work led by the Minister of Agriculture and Food to grow our economy by supporting food and beverage producers, farmers, restaurants and the tourism sector with flexible liquor, land use and cannabis regulations in relation to the development of innovative tourism products and unique experiences.

As you are aware, we have established an accord with the BC Green Caucus that supports our shared commitment to ensuring stable governance focused on delivering progress and tangible outcomes for British Columbians. The commitments in that accord complement the direction in these mandate letters.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the Members' Conflict of Interest Act. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

The work we have ahead takes place in a profoundly challenging geopolitical environment. Close friends and neighbours to our south are contemplating imposing draconian tariffs on our products that would hurt both Americans and Canadians. Our allies internationally face governmental instability. Hate and racism are on the rise around the world. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs with unclear implications and astonishing potential are announced daily. Global inflation, snarled supply chains, and war are threatening global economic growth and prosperity as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

We have an obligation to protect and defend British Columbians, as well as seize opportunities, in these uncertain times.

The good news is that we have everything we need to succeed, and we will succeed. British Columbia's people – our workers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists, and innovators – are among the most talented in the world. We are home to world-class educational institutions and public services. Our natural beauty is unmatched, we have internationally envied resources, and we are one of the most diverse places on the planet. Your job is to help us leverage these advantages in perilous times.

Use this mandate letter to guide your work, and do not be afraid to challenge assumptions, or be innovative, bold and aggressive in achieving the goals set out for you and your Ministry by the people of this province.

Thank you for joining me in the work ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC  
Premier