

*Ministry of  
Competition, Science  
and Enterprise*

**2002/03  
Annual Service Plan Report**



**National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data**

British Columbia. Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise.

Annual Service Plan Report. — 2002/03 —

Annual.

Continues: British Columbia. Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise.  
Annual Report.

ISSN 1703-3977. ISSN 1705-9267 = Annual Service Plan Report — British  
Columbia. Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise.

1. British Columbia. Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise —  
Periodicals. 2. British Columbia — Economic Policy —  
Periodicals. 3. British Columbia — Commercial Policy —  
Periodicals. 4. Science and State — British Columbia —  
Periodicals. 5. Technology and State — British Columbia —  
Periodicals. I. Title. II. Title: Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise  
Annual Service Plan Report.

HC117.B7B74

354.73'09711'05

C2003-960115-3

For more information on the British Columbia  
Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise  
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***[www.gov.bc.ca/cse/](http://www.gov.bc.ca/cse/)***

Published by the Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise

## Accountability Statement

The 2002/03 Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise Annual Service Plan Report was prepared under my direction and in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. This report compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the Ministry's 2002/03 Service Plan. I am accountable for the Ministry's results and the basis on which they have been reported.



Honourable Rick Thorpe  
Minister of Competition, Science and Enterprise

June 12, 2003

## Minister of State Accountability Statement

I am the Minister of State for Deregulation, and under the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act*, I am accountable for the following results and the basis on which the related portion of the 2002/03 Ministry Annual Service Plan Report was prepared.

<b>Expected Results for 2002/03</b>	<b>Result Achieved</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achieving 12 per cent reduction of regulatory burden.</li></ul>	Yes



Honourable Kevin Falcon  
Minister of State for Deregulation

June 12, 2003





## Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise



The Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise was created to implement initiatives to kick-start the economy and revive the business environment in British Columbia. We have made significant progress in our mandate.

In 2002/03, the Ministry made important advances in our four core business areas: removing barriers to business; providing economic policy and strategic advice; marketing and investment (including international marketing); and encouraging innovation and the development and transfer of new knowledge.



Our progress is reflected in the following accomplishments:

- We eliminated business subsidies and as a result, have created a healthier climate for competition;
- We reviewed fees and licenses and made changes which ensure that only users pay for services, not the general taxpaying public;
- We reduced the government-wide regulatory burden on businesses and entrepreneurs by 13 per cent, and opened up British Columbia for business;
- We enabled competition in the labour-sponsored fund market to provide choice for shareholders and in turn enabled the funds to invest more in eligible small businesses, and for those businesses to retain operational control as they grow;
- OneStop Business Service is now available online in 101 locations in British Columbia; and
- We attracted two new corporate call centres to British Columbia potentially creating over 1,400 new jobs.

In addition, we implemented several changes that were identified through the Core Review Process of 2001/02, namely, reducing Government's role — and increasing private sector participation — in the retailing, distribution and warehousing of beverage alcohol in British Columbia.

Through the Minister of State for Deregulation, Government exceeded its deregulation target of 12 per cent for 2002/03. The final result was a net reduction of more than 50,000 unnecessary regulatory requirements.

Another milestone this year was the purchase of the site necessary to proceed with an expanded Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre. The expanded centre will open on time and on budget in 2008.

In March, the Ministry successfully led a Government partnership resulting in a \$27.5 million contribution to Genome British Columbia. Support for Genome British Columbia's vital research is just one example of how the British Columbia Government is cultivating a climate of innovation to attract and retain world-class talent.

We undertook a number of initiatives to promote tourism:

- \$1.4 million in funding for development of a cruise ship facility in Prince Rupert;
- \$750,000 in incremental funding to Tourism British Columbia to increase marketing of tourism opportunities; and
- \$500,000 in incremental funding to regional tourism authorities and the Aboriginal Tourism Association of British Columbia for marketing efforts.

All development in British Columbia must proceed with the environment in mind. The Ministry continued to deliver the federal-provincial Infrastructure Works program. This year, \$222.6 million went towards 61 "green" infrastructure projects to improve drinking water quality in communities throughout British Columbia.

In the February 2003 Throne Speech, the Ministry was given responsibility for leading the Heartlands Economic Strategy — a plan to restore and expand wealth generation and prosperity in all parts of the Province, and from all aspects of the land base.

We are encouraged by the strides the Ministry has taken this year, and plan to continue improving on this progress in the years to come.

We are pleased to present the details of our activities and accomplishments in this annual report for the fiscal year 2002/03.



Honourable Rick Thorpe  
Minister of Competition, Science and Enterprise



Honourable Kevin Falcon  
Minister of State for Deregulation

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## Year-at-a-Glance Highlights

The Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise made significant progress in fiscal 2002/03 towards the Government's goal of creating a strong and vibrant provincial economy, while operating within a challenging economic environment. Despite the on-going softwood lumber dispute with the United States, and poor economic performance by the United States, our largest trading partner, British Columbia's economy grew 1.8 per cent in 2002, up from a 0.2 per cent decline in the previous year. During 2002/03, the Ministry has continued to work towards removing barriers to investment, and creating the right conditions for economic growth, opportunity and prosperity. The Ministry's achievements in 2002/03 include:

- **OneStop Business Service:** made the award-winning OneStop Business Services available online in 101 locations throughout British Columbia
- **Film Tax Credits:** established or expanded New Media, Animation and Special Effects, and Regional tax credits.
- **Deregulation:** exceeded Ministry and Government deregulation targets for 2002/03, and continued within the Ministry to reduce the regulatory burden by rescinding obsolete, onerous and unnecessary regulations.
- **Genome BC:** spearheaded the provincial government contribution of \$27.5 million to Genome BC for world-class research initiatives.
- **Corporate Call Centres:** announced two major new investments to British Columbia in the form of corporate contact centers with the potential to create over 1,400 new jobs. New and existing call centres created approximately 1,600 new jobs in 2002/03.
- **Venture Capital:** undertook a major overhaul of the *Small Business Venture Capital Act* providing greater access to capital for British Columbia small businesses.
- **Labour-Sponsored Investment Funds:** passed legislative amendments enabling competition in the labour-sponsored fund sector. Altura Growth Fund was introduced as the second labour-sponsored fund operating in British Columbia.
- **Tax Credits:** completed the process to enable Budget 2003 provisions for \$5 million in tax credits for the New Media sector and \$4 million in tax credits for labour-sponsored funds.
- **Trade Shows:** showcased British Columbia's technology and production capacity at international trade shows and investment forums including the Offshore Technology Conference, Bio-Partnering North America, CommunicAsia, Seatrade, Online Learning, Invest Northwest, New Earth and the Hong Kong IT Infrastructure Show.
- **Inbound Missions:** hosted over 100 inbound trade and investment missions from key markets around the world, including the United States, Japan, China, Taiwan, the European Union and India introducing offshore investors and buyers to British Columbia companies.
- **Trade Missions:** organized Leading Edge Premier and Minister's business missions to India, Japan, Taiwan and California to heighten international awareness of trade and investment opportunities in British Columbia's resource, technology and service sectors.
- **Marketing Alliances:** established export marketing alliances in several sectors, including offshore services supply, yacht building expertise, green building capacity and e-learning technologies and services.

# Ministry Role and Services

## Introduction

The Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise is the primary agency responsible for initiatives and programs dedicated to creating a strong provincial economy in British Columbia. The Ministry is tasked with:

- establishing and expanding partnerships with entrepreneurs, businesses and organizations throughout British Columbia;
- encouraging a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship;
- developing and enhancing national and international investment and trading relationships; and
- implementing the Heartlands Economic Strategy across the province.

In fulfilling this mandate, the Ministry deals with a broad spectrum of industries including bio-technology, high-technology, ports and marine industries, aero-space and automotive industries. Additionally, the Ministry has specific responsibility for: small business, venture capital, tourism, film and television production, and new media. The Ministry is also responsible for the government-wide deregulation initiative.

This Annual Service Plan Report is the first annual report following the government-wide implementation of rolling annual three-year service plans for the period 2002/03 to 2004/05. Service Plans play an important role in ensuring each ministry effectively plans the future use of its resources, guides ministry endeavours, and creates a range of performance targets. This Annual Service Plan Report describes the Ministry's goals, objectives and strategies, as well as reports on the degree to which the Ministry succeeded in achieving its performance targets in 2002/03.

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## Ministry Vision, Mission and Values

### 1. Vision

The Ministry's vision echoes two key elements of the Government's vision statement:

- A thriving private sector economy that creates high-paying job opportunities; and
- The fastest growing technology industry in Canada.

## **2. Mission**

The Ministry's mission statement is focused on three key areas:

### **Competition**

Ensure British Columbia has the most attractive investment climate and business climate in North America.

### **Science**

Encourage a culture of innovation and the development and transfer of new knowledge benefiting individuals, businesses and communities.

### **Enterprise**

Promote economic growth by aggressively pursuing increased marketing of British Columbia which results in the growth of investment and trade.

## **3. Core Values**

The Ministry is focused on establishing and expanding partnerships with entrepreneurs, businesses and organizations throughout British Columbia in order to build a strong private sector-driven economy; foster an innovation culture for science and technology; and develop national and international investment and trade relationships.

We are advocates within Government for entrepreneurs and business, and marketers of our competitive economic climate to national and international investors in the global market place.

Our Ministry believes in customer service. We will be a results-driven organization that measures performance at both the global and individual level.

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## **Ministry Overview**

The Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise is the primary provincial agency responsible for initiatives and programs dedicated to creating a strong provincial economy in British Columbia. Activities within the Ministry are focused on building a competitive business environment, that gives the private sector the confidence to invest, generate opportunity, and create jobs throughout British Columbia.

The Ministry's responsibilities are to:

- Remove barriers to business;
- Champion competitive business practices;
- Market British Columbia as an attractive investment location;
- Encourage innovation and the development and transfer of knowledge;
- Ensure efficient, effective management and regulation.

- Establish and expand partnerships with entrepreneurs, business and organizations throughout British Columbia;
- Encourage a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship;
- Develop and enhance national and international investment and trading relationships;
- Be the advocate in Government for the competitive interests of entrepreneurs, business and investment community; and
- Focus on expanding pools of venture capital in the Province.

The Ministry is also responsible, through the mandate of the Minister of State for Deregulation, for the deregulation initiative to achieve the *New Era* commitment to cut red tape and reduce the regulatory burden by one third within three years.

The Ministry delivers its services and programs through four divisions and the Deregulation Office:

**Economic Policy** — provides for the development, analysis and preparation of policy and strategies relating to enhanced competitiveness and economic development in the Province, particularly trade, tourism, and the film industry, as well as the delivery of federal-provincial economic development programs.

**British Columbia Trade and Investment Office** — promotes growth and diversity of British Columbia's economic base by actively pursuing new investment, expansion of existing business, and development of trade and market opportunities.

**Science, Technology and Telecommunications** — develops policies and initiatives to support science and technology including the promotion of new technologies in existing industries and the creation of new knowledge-based industries.

**Management Services Division** — provides financial, human resources, records management and information systems support to the Ministry.

**Deregulation Office** — provides policy advice and supports the Minister of State for Deregulation's mandate to set the framework and oversee the government-wide commitment to cut red tape and the regulatory burden by one third within three years.

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## Ministry Operating Context

The operating context is an assessment of the general economic operating environment that businesses faced during 2002/03. It also includes some external and internal factors that have an impact on the business and investment climate, and by extension, the Ministry's ability to deliver results.

### Economic Overview

Fiscal year 2002/03 can be characterized as a year that started with a period of economic uncertainty, then saw substantial job gains through the middle part of the year, before ending with another bout of uncertainty.

In the early part of the year, the US economy was still experiencing the aftershock of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. This, combined with anaemic stock market performance and significant corporate scandals, contributed to low consumer confidence. Some analysts feared that low consumer and investor confidence in the US, along with the US Government indicating an impending confrontation with Iraq, would negatively impact Canada's economic prospects.

By the middle of the fiscal year the Canadian economy had outpaced the US economy by a wide margin, and it was apparent that the Canadian and US consumers had differing views. In Canada, consumer confidence rose to a 14 year high, while in the US it remained just above recession levels. By late summer 2002, the US economy had lost 380,000 manufacturing jobs, and factory shipments had increased by only 1.4 per cent. In contrast, the Canadian economy had created 148,600 jobs, and manufacturing shipments had risen seven per cent.<sup>1</sup> Analysts credit Canada's economic success in 2002 to a combination of low interest rates and tax relief that released pent up consumer demand. This trend was particularly apparent in the housing and auto-manufacturing sectors.

British Columbia's economy also saw significant job growth with a gain of over 85,000 jobs — an increase of nearly five per cent — from the beginning of the year through August 2002. The British Columbia economy experienced strong job gains in construction, manufacturing and small business sectors. While these sectors saw positive job growth, the Province's resource sectors, particularly forestry and fishing, continued to struggle through the year.<sup>2</sup>

By the last quarter of 2002, the economy showed signs of succumbing to economic weaknesses in the US. Canada's growth tumbled from about 3.6 per cent in Q3 to about 1.6 per cent in Q4.<sup>3</sup> British Columbia's economy also started to shed jobs as some rebalancing set in to compensate for huge job gains during 2002.

By the end of fiscal 2002/03, the war in Iraq contributed to plummeting consumer confidence. In Canada consumer confidence fell to its lowest level in a year, while in the US consumer confidence plunged to its lowest level in almost a decade.<sup>4</sup>

In the last three months of the fiscal year, the divergence between the Canadian and US economies pushed the Canadian dollar to recent highs against the US dollar. During the first three months of 2003, the Canadian dollar gained four cents US to stand at over US\$0.68. This increase is attributed to weak US economic performance, and higher interest rates prevailing in Canada.

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<sup>1</sup> *National Post*, August 30 and September 7, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada, September 6, 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Bank of Canada, February, 2003

<sup>4</sup> Conference Board of Canada, March 14, 2003.

Overall, British Columbia's economy grew by 1.8 per cent in 2002, recovering from a 0.2 per cent decline of 2001.<sup>5</sup> For the first three months of 2003, British Columbia's economic index grew by 1.3 per cent, indicating improving economic conditions for 2003.<sup>6</sup>

## Business Sector Overview

### Tourism

Travel to British Columbia is growing despite on-going global challenges. The Province hosted over 5.1 million overnight visitors in 2002, up two per cent from 2001. Overnight entries to British Columbia accounted for more than one quarter of all such entries to Canada.

Entries from the US increased 3.8 per cent in 2002. Visitors from the Asia Pacific region increased 2.3 per cent compared to 2001, while performance in European markets was mixed. However, the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), and war in Iraq depressed global travel in the first quarter of 2003, and also impacted British Columbia. Visitors to British Columbia declined 12.6 per cent during the first three months of 2003, although the decline was less in British Columbia than in the rest of Canada, which declined 18.4 per cent during this period.

British Columbia and its travel industry continue to be recognized as tourism leaders internationally:

- Number 1 destination in North America for kayaking and whale watching (UK's Harpers and Queen Magazine);
- BC Escapes Program garnered its second consecutive RSVP Award for excellence in direct marketing (Canadian Marketing Association);
- Wedgewood Hotel in Vancouver rated as the best hotel in Canada (Conde Nast); and
- Aerie Resort on Vancouver Island rated as the best North American resort (Conde Nast).

### Small Business

The 2002 Small Business Profile identified that almost 98 per cent of all businesses in British Columbia were small businesses. An estimated 930,900 people were employed by small businesses. This represents 52 per cent of all private sector jobs in the Province.

Among the provinces, British Columbia ranked first in Canada with the highest proportion of Gross Domestic Product (28 per cent) attributed to the small business sector.

Small businesses exported \$11.3 billion worth of merchandise to international destinations, representing 34 per cent of the total value of goods exported from the Province. Small businesses comprised 93 per cent of employers in high technology, the sector experiencing the fastest growth in new small businesses.

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<sup>5</sup> British Columbia Statistics, May 2, 2003.

<sup>6</sup> British Columbia Business Council, April 1, 2003.

## Science and Technology

British Columbia's high technology industries faced serious challenges in 2001 as a result of the global economic turndown and continuing financial challenges experienced by the telecommunications industry in particular. It began a strong turn-around in the last half of 2002, ending with high technology service industries growing 7.6 per cent. Gross Domestic Product in the high technology sector grew 14 per cent in the last half of 2002. High technology exports to the European Union doubled in the last half of 2002, with exports to Japan up by a factor of 12.

British Columbia is the third largest centre in Canada for biotechnology research and development and ranks the 16th largest in North America. It is Canada's fastest growing biotech region. For example, exports of life sciences products and services grew from \$82 million in 2000 to \$186 million in 2002. Our expertise is gaining world recognition — in May 2003 a British Columbia team at the Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre in Vancouver was the first in the world to complete DNA sequencing on the coronavirus, implicated in SARS.

The Premier's Council on Technology is working to develop industry sector strategies to grow industry clusters based on our science and technology expertise in such areas as fuel cells and information technologies. This, combined with Government investments in both physical and human resource infrastructure in science and innovation, is building a strong foundation for the future.

## Venture Capital

Since 2000, British Columbia has consistently received 10 to 13 per cent of the venture capital invested in Canada. In each of the last three years — 2000 to 2002 — approximately \$500 million was invested in the province with the cumulative amount totalling \$1.6 billion by the end of 2002.

However, venture capital in British Columbia faces a number of challenges. For the past five years, "expansion" investments accounted for approximately 80 per cent of all venture capital transactions in British Columbia. This statistic reflects the acute shortage of early-stage or "seed" capital for new venture start-ups. It is the "equity capital gap" that the programs administered under the *Small Business Venture Capital Act* and the *Employee Investment Act* seek to address.

Regional economic development remains a priority. Currently, 98 per cent of all venture capital investment occurs within the boundaries of the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Capital Regional District. The primary challenge is to balance the need for attractive shareholder returns with the start-up and expansion capital needs of emerging businesses in the Heartlands.

Another challenge to address is the relative scarcity of experienced capital managers. However, recent amendments to the *Small Business Venture Capital Act* to enable eligible small businesses greater access to capital and the resultant dramatic upswing in venture capital company registrations (i.e. from 30 registrations in all of 2002/03 to 30 registrations

in April 2003, alone), combined with the launch of a new fund in the labour-sponsored fund market, have been hailed as positive steps towards increasing the supply of venture capital. This increased activity is expected to ultimately increase the pool of experienced capital managers in British Columbia.

### **Film and Television**

Film and television production in British Columbia reached \$993.6 million in 2002. Some 205 productions were shot in the Province. Of these, 140 were Canadian productions worth \$163.6 million and 65 were foreign productions worth \$830 million.

Three trends emerged in 2002:

- A 28 per cent increase in spending, over the previous year, on big-budget foreign feature films;
- Fewer foreign television series due to the proliferation of reality television; and
- The continuing downward trend in Canadian dramatic television production.

Introduction of new animation or visual effects enhancements to existing film and TV tax credit programs, as well as the extension of the regional bonus to the Production Services Tax Credit program will help ensure British Columbia maintains its position in an increasingly competitive global industry.

### **External Factors**

The following are factors external to the Ministry that have impacted British Columbia's economy, or specific business areas, to some degree during 2002/03.

- **Strengthening Canadian Dollar:** The resurgence of the dollar towards the end of 2002/03 could impact some of British Columbia's export-dependent industries such as forestry and high-tech sectors. Also, the strengthening dollar raises issues for British Columbia's film industry. To enhance the film sectors relative competitiveness, the Ministry oversaw the implementation or expansion of regional tax credits and film tax credits for new media, animation and special effects.
- **Restricted International Travel:** The reduction in corporate travel spending and the increase in international security in the aftermath of September 11, 2001, continued to dampen international business activities in 2002/03. Many business events and missions were cancelled in 2002/03.
- **SARS:** The outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) contributed to a further weakening of international business activity towards the end of 2002/03. The tourism sector experienced the greatest impact from SARS, due in large part to cancelled visits from Asian travellers.
- **Kyoto Protocol:** There is continued uncertainty over plans to meet Kyoto's stringent carbon emission targets and the potential costs involved. This uncertainty is hampering the private sector's ability to calculate the costs of ratification and make key decisions. It is possible this uncertainty will discourage investment in British Columbia (relative to the US which will not ratify the protocol), particularly in the energy sector.

## **Internal Factors**

The main internal factors affecting the Ministry are:

- **Ministry Workforce:** Like other ministries across Government, the Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise is facing a demographic challenge as a result of its ageing workforce. This presents significant recruitment and succession challenges.
- **Shared Services:** Implementation of the Government's shared services program has resulted in staff transfers and required staff adjustments regarding roles and responsibilities with respect to finance and human resources functions.
- **Communications:** Centralization of communications functions across Government has resulted in a reduced number of communication staff supporting the Ministry.

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## **Strategic Shifts and Significant Changes in Policy Direction**

This section identifies significant changes in policy, structure or key programs which have occurred in 2002/03.

The Ministry was established in 2001 with a mandate to create the conditions for a thriving private sector economy by eliminating unnecessary regulations and removing the barriers to business. Initial first year efforts focused on identifying the barriers to business, quantifying regulations and setting deregulation targets. In 2002/03, the focus shifted towards removing barriers to business, and eliminating regulations. Other shifts include:

- Embracing the move towards e-government by advancing the electronic single business window approach to business registration and business services.
- Establishing innovative delivery mechanisms for services. The Canada/British Columbia Business Service Centre, the Province's key resource center for business information and services, was transitioned from a federal/provincial partnership to a non-profit society.
- Created the "Invest British Columbia" label to unify and coordinate under a single "brand identity" key investment activities led by the British Columbia Trade and Investment Office, in partnership with urban and rural communities, the Government of Canada and business sector participants in real estate, utilities and other sectors.
- The Altura Growth Fund was selected as the second labour-sponsored investment fund (LSIF) to be registered in British Columbia — opening competition in the LSIF market for the first time.
- The Ministry refocused its marketing activities and moved from developing an overall marketing and branding plan to a more structured approach, targeting priority markets and key sectors in partnership with the private sector.

## Update on *New Era* Commitments

The following table identifies the Government's priorities for which the Ministry is responsible, and describes the current status of each priority.

<b>NEW ERA PROMISES</b>	
<b>Government Priority</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Within 90 days initiate commitment to eliminate Government subsidies to businesses that give companies an unfair advantage over their competitors.	This review was completed in January 2003, and 23 programs considered to be subsidies to business were eliminated. On-going monitoring and advice regarding new initiatives.
Within 90 days initiate a commitment to establish a new Premier's Council on Technology.	The Council has been operating for almost two years and in March 2003 issued its fourth report. It outlines the priorities the Government should address over the coming year. The report also begins to address strategies for developing key industry clusters.
Cut "red-tape" and regulatory burden by one-third with in three years.	Commitment ongoing. As of the end of March 2003: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Across Government, a total of 61,942 regulatory requirements were eliminated, 11,821 added for a net reduction of 50,121 from the adjusted baseline of 382,139 requirements.<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• This 13 per cent net reduction exceeds the government-wide target of 12 per cent.</li> <li>• At more than five-to-one, the results are well ahead of the target of eliminating two requirements for every new one introduced.</li> </ul>
Stimulate tourism with a plan to improve operators' ability to successfully compete for visitors from around the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chaired first meeting in years of Federal-Provincial-Territorial Tourism Ministers in Victoria (December 2002), and another in Vancouver (May 2003), to identify and remove barriers impairing the competitiveness of the tourism industry, and to advance British Columbia's tourism interests with the Government of Canada.</li> <li>• Provided \$750,000 funding to support targeted marketing efforts, and an additional \$500,000 to regional and aboriginal tourism associations for tourism promotion.</li> </ul>
Work to extend high-speed broadband Internet access in British Columbia through wireless technology, cable, phone lines and fibre optics.	British Columbia is the most connected Province in Canada. By the end of 2003, more than 80 percent of our citizens should have access to affordable high-speed broadband service.  Responsibility for this area has been transferred to the Ministry of Management Services.

<sup>1</sup> Effective December 31, 2002, a one-time adjustment to the regulatory count baseline improved the accuracy of this groundbreaking performance measure.

<b>NEW ERA PROMISES — Continued</b>	
<b>Government Priority</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Push to eliminate interprovincial trade barriers.	Intergovernmental Relations brought the Province into full compliance with Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT); one of only two jurisdictions to achieve this. Working with other jurisdictions across Canada to improve the AIT and ensure barriers to businesses are removed.

<b>Key Projects — Set Out in the Premier's Letter to the Minister (June 25, 2001)</b>	
<b>Government Priority</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Take the lead role in ensuring our tax, regulatory and labour environment is consistent with the new economy.	The business subsidy review has been completed and combined with new tax policy, fees and licenses review and the deregulation initiative, provides the basis for renewed economic growth. The Ministry also renewed and expanded tax credits to enhance the competitiveness of the Film Industry (e.g., regions, new media, animation and special effects).
Consolidate and rationalize scientific activities with the Government, working with the Ministry of Advance Education.	A comprehensive review has indicated that there are no major areas of concern. No overlaps or duplication of activities could be identified.
Review the policy for fees and Licenses.	Fees and licenses review policy developed to ensure they are, among other things, simple, appropriate and competitive. By March 31, 2003 over 80 per cent of fees and licenses reviewed, with remainder to be reviewed by June 30, 2003.
Support the Premier's Technology Council.	Responsibility for this area has been transferred to the Ministry of Management Services.

## Core Business Areas

The Government's overarching aim is for British Columbia to have the best performing economy and the highest quality of life in North America. A key goal of government is to establish *a strong and vibrant provincial economy*, which includes:

- *A thriving private sector economy that creates high-paying job opportunities;*
- *The fastest growing technology industry in Canada;*
- *Greater equity and equality for British Columbia in Canada; and*
- *Responsible, accountable management of public resources and tax dollars.*

To support this goal, and its components, the Ministry developed a vision for "*a thriving private sector economy that creates high-paying job opportunities; and the fastest growing technology industry in Canada.*"

In order to effectively and efficiently deliver functions to support the Ministry's vision and its corresponding goals and objectives, the Ministry created four core business areas for the provision of programs and services. The core business areas in 2002/03 are:

1. Removing barriers to business;
2. Economic policy and strategic advice;
3. Marketing and investment; and
4. Encouraging innovation and the development and transfer of new knowledge.

### Core Business Area 1: Removing Barriers to Business

The primary role of Removing Barriers to Business is to:

- Oversee the government-wide deregulation initiative to cut red tape to reduce the regulatory burden by one-third within three years and implement the Ministry's three year deregulation plan;
- Conduct a comprehensive cross-government review of provincial subsidy programs with the intention of eliminating subsidies to businesses;
- Review fees and licenses policy to ensure fees and licenses are competitive and the rates levied are appropriate;
- Work with industry stakeholders and community groups to streamline the permitting process, including film locations and land access; and
- Removing barriers to key Government projects and initiatives.

Key Programs	Outputs
Ministry three-year Deregulation Plan.	As of March 31, 2003 the Ministry had achieved a 31 per cent net reduction from its baseline of 2,329 regulatory requirements through the repeal of obsolete legislation associated with the venture capital investment strategy.
Government-wide deregulation initiative.	Achieved a net 13 per cent reduction from the baseline of 382,139 regulatory requirements.
Eliminate subsidies to business.	23 subsidy programs terminated.
Review fees and licenses.	2,345 fees reviewed to date (some 80 per cent completed, with outstanding items to be completed by June 30, 2003, subject to policy reviews).
Streamline permitting process.	Film locations policy under development to enhance British Columbia's competitiveness as a film production destination.

## Core Business Area 2: Economic Policy and Strategic Advice

The primary role of Economic Policy and Strategic Advice is to:

- Coordinate the development of strategic options to respond to specific provincial economic development issues and Government initiatives (e.g. ports competitiveness, elimination of business subsidies, etc.);
- Represent the Ministry's mandate and provide a business advocate position during the development of key initiatives by other ministries (e.g. input and comment during the development of the Community Charter, Results Based Forest Practices Code);
- Provide advice to ministries and agencies to ensure emerging policy initiatives do not compromise Government's advances to improve competitiveness such as the elimination of business subsidies (e.g. Economic Measures for First Nations);
- Manage and report on economic trends and conditions including responsibility for updating the "Tax Environment" paper;
- Monitor economic development planning in key competing jurisdictions and maintain an inventory of economic strategies and planning documents from other jurisdictions; and
- Manage British Columbia/Canada Infrastructure program to improve urban and rural local government infrastructure; and manage the Western Economic Partnership Agreement to support economic development in British Columbia.

Key Programs	Outputs
Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program.	103 green community projects announced to date. Preliminary discussions with the federal government as to a successor initiative.
Western Economic Partnership Agreement (WEPA).	48 projects underway. Discussions with the Federal Government on a successor agreement.

### Core Business Area 3: Marketing and Investment

The primary role of Marketing and Investment is to:

- Develop a global marketing strategy to promote British Columbia as a potential investment location and tourism destination, and market British Columbia as a location for film and television productions;
- Identify, market and promote British Columbia enterprise and technologies, and work with industry on sectoral marketing initiatives;
- Organize and support missions to priority markets;
- Host incoming missions and trade delegations, and coordinate and support the Ministers' and the Premier's trade missions; and,
- Administer programs, under the *Small Business Venture Capital Act*, to assist small companies raise capital for business start-up and expansion.

Key Programs	Outputs
Inbound Trade Missions.	Hosted over 100 trade and investment missions from key markets from around the world, including US, Europe, and Japan.
Outgoing Trade Missions.	Organized investment and trade missions to India, Japan, Taiwan and California.
Investment Attraction.	Attracted two new call centers to British Columbia potentially creating over 1,400 new jobs.
Implement international sales and marketing strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed an international marketing action plan;</li> <li>• updated the "Investment Climate" package; and</li> <li>• launched the Invest BC website containing business and community information required by potential investors.</li> </ul>
Trade and Investment Initiatives - launched sectoral initiatives to key markets.	<p>Showcased British Columbia products in major international trade and investment events for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• biotechnology;</li> <li>• alternative energy;</li> <li>• oil spill response;</li> <li>• e-learning;</li> <li>• telecommunications; and</li> <li>• green buildings.</li> </ul>
Initiatives to support capital formation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Small Business Venture Capital Act</i> amendments to assist small businesses raise start-up and expansion capital.</li> <li>• Launched the Altura Growth Fund in the labour-sponsored fund market.</li> <li>• Conducted information seminars for the new Provincial Nominee Program (to attract business immigrants who meet provincial investment objectives).</li> </ul>
Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre Expansion.	Completed site purchase.

## Core Business Area 4: Encouraging Innovation and the Development and Transfer of New Knowledge

The primary role of Encouraging Innovation and the Development and Transfer of New Knowledge is to:

- Stimulate the growth of infrastructure that will attract investments in science, technology and telecommunications.
- Work with universities, entrepreneurs and venture capitalists to increase technology commercialization in British Columbia.
- Make British Columbia a magnet for attracting and retaining technology and science researchers.

Key Programs	Outputs
Investment in regional science and technology organizations.	Invested \$1.5 million in 12 regional organizations, delivering a range of services, including new business start-up seminars, venture capital workshops, technology mentoring programs, investment matching opportunities, research and technology transfer services, and patent and licensing assistance in all regions across the Province.
Investment in research and development infrastructure.	Invested \$4.45 million in five major research and development infrastructure activities. This support resulted in an additional \$2.9 million (70 per cent) investment from private and public sector sources.

# Ministry Goals, Objectives and Key Strategies

This section details Ministry's goals, objectives and supporting strategies the Ministry pursued in 2002/03, for each core business. The goals relate to developing a competitive investment climate, promoting economic growth and technology transfer. As such, they directly support the Ministry's vision of a thriving private sector economy, and the fastest growing technology industry in Canada.

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## Ministry Goals and Objectives

### 1. Establish a Competitive Investment Climate

This goal focuses on implementing strategies that will make British Columbia a more globally and regionally competitive investment location. Its objectives include:

- Cut regulations to business and forestry industry by one-third in three years;
- Eliminate subsidies to business;
- Become national leader in open and free trade;
- Improve physical and human infrastructure which supports growth; and
- Increased regional and sectoral economic development.

### 2. Promote Economic Growth

This goal focuses on developing promotional and marketing initiatives to let industry leaders and potential investors know that significant steps are being taken to make British Columbia a more competitive investment location, and to target marketing initiatives to specific sectors, including tourism and film production. The objectives include:

- Increase awareness of the *New Era* for British Columbia — “Open for Business”; and
- Market opportunities in British Columbia's strategic industries/sectors.

### 3. Innovation, Science and Technology Transfer

This goal focuses on science and technology innovation and transfer of that science and technology. This goal represents the Ministry's intention to facilitate technology commercialization, and to promote the adoption of new knowledge in existing and emerging industries. The objectives include:

- Rebuild the national and international competitiveness of British Columbia's science and technology base; and
- Promote technology investment, transfer and commercialization.

## Links between Goals, Core Business Areas, Objectives and Strategies

The tables below identify the links between Ministry goals and corresponding objectives and strategies for each core business.

### Goal #1: To Establish a Competitive Investment Climate

Core Business: Removing Barriers to Business	
Objectives	Strategies
Cut regulations to business and forestry industry by one-third in three years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee, measure and ensure results on the Government-wide regulatory reduction process and work with the Ministry of Forests on plan for forest regulation and reduction on a timely basis.</li> <li>Work with tourism industry, communities and stakeholders, streamline process for permits and land access and use to ensure long-term sustainability.</li> <li>Review fees and license policy to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.</li> <li>Develop streamlined provincial permitting system for film locations.</li> </ul>
Eliminate subsidies to business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish framework and principles for review.</li> <li>Comprehensive cross Government review of all potential subsidy programs.</li> <li>Promote individual ministry accountability for implementation.</li> <li>Monitor implementation; provide ongoing policy advice on new proposed measures.</li> </ul>
Become national leader in open and free trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully comply with inter-provincial Agreement on Internal Trade.</li> <li>Consult, identify and push to remove internal and international trade barriers.</li> <li>Initiate discussions with Canadian jurisdictions on further actions to remove trade barriers.</li> </ul>
Improve physical and human infrastructure which supports growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, implement six-year, \$800 million Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program.</li> <li>Implement the Western Economic Partnership Agreement — includes institutional infrastructure for innovation and emerging sectors.</li> <li>Seek approval to negotiate successor Western Economic Partnership Agreement with the Federal Government.</li> <li>With the Ministry of Skills, Development and Labour and the Ministry of Advanced Education, develop a multi-year workforce planning strategy.</li> <li>With the Ministry of Skills, Development and Labour, develop a multiyear youth employment strategy.</li> </ul>

Core Business: Economic Policy and Strategic Advice	
Objectives	Strategies
Increased regional and sectoral economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure taxation, regulatory and labour policies are competitive.</li> <li>• Remove barriers to advancing key Government projects and initiatives.</li> <li>• Partner with private sector to leverage public benefits.</li> <li>• Provide advice to organizations and communities.</li> <li>• Ensure tourism interests are considered in northern and regional policy decisions.</li> </ul>

**Goal #2: To Promote Economic Growth**

Core Business: Marketing and Investment	
Objectives	Strategies
Increase awareness of the <i>New Era</i> for British Columbia — “Open for Business.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the private sector on strategies for “Branding British Columbia.”</li> <li>• Work with Invest British Columbia and other internal and external partners to develop international marketing strategies and a comprehensive campaign targeted at priority markets and sectors.</li> <li>• Organize/support missions to priority markets.</li> <li>• Support incoming missions and delegations, principally by identifying appropriate British Columbia companies, technology and expertise.</li> </ul>
Market opportunities in British Columbia’s strategic industries/sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify, market and promote British Columbia enterprise and technologies.</li> <li>• Work with industry associations and organizations and governments on sectoral marketing initiatives, as well as initiatives that may cross sectors.</li> <li>• Link British Columbia companies to key companies from priority markets.</li> <li>• Develop a global marketing strategy to promote British Columbia to international tourism, film and television industries.</li> <li>• Work with financial community to ensure capital is available at all levels to support investment and growth.</li> </ul>

**Goal #3: Innovation, Science and Technology Transfer**

Core Business: Encouraging Innovation and the Development and Transfer of New Knowledge	
Objectives	Strategies
Rebuild the national and international competitiveness of British Columbia's science and technology base.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make British Columbia a magnet for attracting and retaining technology and science researchers.</li> <li>• Leverage public assets and create an economic climate that stimulates the growth of infrastructure and attracts strategic investments in science, technology and telecommunications.</li> <li>• Lead and coordinate interprovincial, national and international science, technology and telecommunications issues.</li> <li>• Consolidate and rationalize British Columbia Government science and technology activities.</li> <li>• Lead in bringing educational institutions and private sector together for research, development and commercialization.</li> </ul>
Promote technology investment, transfer and commercialization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage development of important new technologies.</li> <li>• Work with universities, entrepreneurs and venture capital markets to increase technology commercialization in British Columbia.</li> <li>• Promote adoption of new knowledge in existing and emerging industries.</li> </ul>

# Performance Reporting

The following tables identify the Ministry's performance targets for each objective and core business, and the actual result attained in 2002/03. Where appropriate, an explanation of any variances between targets and results is included.

## Performance Measures and Targets by Core Business

### Goal #1: Establish a Competitive Investment Climate

Core Business: Removing Barriers to Business				
Objectives	Performance Measure	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	Variance
Cut regulations to business and forestry industry by one third in three years.	Reduction of regulatory burden by one-third using Cabinet approved measurement process.	12 per cent.	Achieved. 13.12 per cent reduction.	1.12 per cent
	Review all fees and Licenses and set goals.	Complete review of all existing fees and licenses.	On-track. 2,345 fees reviewed by March 31, 2003 (over 80 per cent complete).	Over 80 per cent complete.*
		Establish policy for review of all new fees and Licenses.	Achieved. Policy and process for review of new fees developed and implemented as part of annual budget/service plan review.	Commitment fulfilled.
Eliminate subsidies to business.	Eliminate subsidies to business.	Business subsidies reviewed and ended.	Achieved. Business subsidies reviewed and ended	Commitment fulfilled.
Become a national leader in open and free trade.	Achieve full compliance with interprovincial Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT).	Fully comply with AIT.	Achieved. British Columbia fully complies with AIT.	Commitment fulfilled.

#### Variances

\* Government's objective is to complete the fees and licenses review by June 30, 2003. All ministries have been directed to undertake work required to meet this deadline. Meetings of the Deputy Ministers Committee on Fees and Licenses have been scheduled from April through June to support the review of remaining fees.

Core Business: Removing Barriers to Business — <i>Continued</i>				
Objectives	Performance Measure	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	Variance
		Consult with private sector to drive further removal of trade barriers.	On-track. Preliminary consultations completed.	
Improve physical and human infrastructure which supports growth.	Implement Federal-Provincial infrastructure and partnership agreements.	Allocate fiscal year funding to Provincial, Federal and Municipal priorities.	On-track. 103 Canada/ British Columbia Infrastructure projects announced.	On track. This project has completed year 3 of a 6 year project and has committed 71 per cent of available funding.
		Negotiate further agreements.	Underway. Awaiting Federal Government direction to initiate discussions regarding new agreements.	Dependent on Federal Government Response.

Core Business: Economic Policy and Strategic Advice				
Objectives	Performance Measure	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	Variance
Increased regional and sectoral economic development.	Competitive key indicators in taxation, regulatory and labour policies.	Establish key competitiveness indicators and targets.	On-track. Preliminary research on taxation policy and initiatives completed. British Columbia Progress Board has taken a major role in this area.	
		Advocate within Government for increased competitive taxation, regulatory and labour policies.	On-track. Renewed film and TV regional tax credits. Established tax credits for the New Media and Animation/Special Effects industry.	
	Develop economic strategies.	Work with private sector groups to develop strategies with performance measurements.	Underway. Initial drafts of economic and key sectoral strategies prepared; performance measures need to be industry led.	Will evolve through continuing dialogue with private sector groups, subject to Government fiscal priorities.

**Goal #2: Promote Economic Growth**

Core Business: Marketing and Investment				
Objectives	Performance Measure	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	Variance
Increase awareness of the <i>New Era</i> for British Columbia — “Open for Business.”	International awareness of British Columbia as a competitive investment location.	Develop a marketing strategy and “brand”.	On-track. Development of umbrella marketing strategy and brand ongoing for priority markets and key sectors.	In 2002/03, the Ministry refocused its marketing initiatives to concentrate on priority markets and key sectors, in partnership with the private sector.
		Baseline awareness of “British Columbia brand” in key markets.	On-track. Completed: Update of Investment Climate promotional material; Update of Invest BC website; Developed investment promotion strategy for Japan.	Marketing activities to target priority markets and key sectors on-going.
Market opportunities in British Columbia’s strategic industries/ sectors.	Utilization and satisfaction with Ministry’s products and services.	Work with private sector to develop focused marketing strategies with performance measures.	Achieved. Focused marketing strategies and branding developed for specific sectors, e.g., green buildings, e-learning products and telecommunications.	Marketing activities to target priority markets and key sectors on-going.

**Goal #3: Innovation, Science and Technology Transfer**

<b>Core Business: Encouraging Innovation and the Development and Transfer of New Knowledge</b>				
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2002/03 Target</b>	<b>2002/03 Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Rebuild the national and international competitiveness of British Columbia's science and technology base.	Number of patent, Licences and spin-off companies.	10 per cent growth.	Achieved. 19.5 per cent growth.	Doubled target.
Promote technology investment, transfer and commercialization.	Implementation of the Premier's Technology Council's plan for bridging the digital divide.	Establish initial targets.	Achieved. Initial targets established, and a database of initial baseline information completed. Ministry of Management Services to monitor information.	

## Deregulation

### Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise Deregulation

The Ministry has been a leader in achieving Government's deregulation commitment. As of March 31, 2003, the Ministry had achieved a 31 per cent net reduction from its baseline of 2,329 regulatory requirements, far exceeding the Ministry's initial 12 per cent target for 2002/03. The Ministry's 2003/04 – 2005/06 service plan incorporates this result into revised targets leading to a net reduction of 35.6 per cent in 2004/05.

This year, the Ministry eliminated 719 unnecessary regulations through the repeal of outdated or obsolete legislation (*Small Business Development Act; Special Enterprise Zone and Tax Relief Act; Industrial Development Incentive Act; Natural Resource Community Fund Act; the Job Protection Act; and the Northern Development Act*).

As of March 31, 2003, the British Columbia Securities Commission achieved a net reduction of 2.6 per cent of its baseline of 21,316, primarily through eliminating unnecessary forms. Major changes are in progress under the Commission's deregulation initiative, which

involves an extensive overhaul of securities regulations. This overhaul is targeted to reduce regulatory burden by one-third in 2004/05.

The Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) reached its target of 15 per cent net reduction from its baseline of 5,022, in part through the expansion and simplification of the Rural Agency Store Program. These changes created more opportunities for small business, streamlined the application and approval process, and provided more autonomy in everyday business. The LDB has set a final regulatory reduction target of 54 per cent for 2004/05. (Responsibility for the LDB was transferred to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General on April 24, 2003.)

### **Government Wide Deregulation**

The Government exceeded its 12 per cent deregulation target for March 31, 2003, with a net reduction of more than 50,000 unnecessary regulatory requirements. This achievement, under British Columbia's innovative and comprehensive deregulation framework, reinforces that British Columbia is regulating sensibly and thoughtfully, and encourages prosperity, innovation and enterprise across the province.

British Columbia is unique in imposing rigorous performance standards with tough measurable targets for regulatory reform that will promote smart, effective and efficient regulation. Top priorities are regulations with the most direct impact on competitiveness. Major strides have been made in the areas of employment standards, liquor control and licensing, land use management, and the resource sectors. Many of the changes exemplify the shift towards results-based regulation that will encourage innovation and competitiveness. All ministries and agencies across Government are striving for smarter regulation and streamlining to make it easier for all British Columbians to interact with Government, and help create new opportunities in all economic sectors across the province, particularly in the Heartlands.

## Report on Resources

This section provides information on the Ministry's operating expenditures, full-time equivalent staff (FTE) allocation, and capital expenditures.

Two tables are provided. The first shows operating information for each division, including the Deregulation Office, and is consistent with the Resource Summary table in the Service Plan for 2002/03 – 2005/06. The second table mirrors the *Estimates* Vote structure.

Note that in the first table divisions correspond to core businesses as follows:

Core Business	Division/Office
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marketing and Investment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>British Columbia Trade and Investment Office</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removing Barriers to Investment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Policy</li> <li>Deregulation Office</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Policy and Strategic Advice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Policy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encouraging Innovation and the Development and Transfer of New Knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Science and Technology</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate Services</li> </ul>

## 2002/03 Resource Summary

Table 1

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
<b>1. BC Trade and Investment Office</b> .....	11,371	2,800 <sup>2</sup>	14,171	16,573	(2,402)
<b>2. Economic Policy</b> .....	6,040	—	6,040	7,383	(1,343)
<b>3. Science and Technology</b> .....	17,300	—	17,300	13,652	3,648
<b>4. Corporate Services</b> .....	18,469	1,369 <sup>1</sup>	20,784	19,247	1,537
		946 <sup>2</sup>			
<b>5. Deregulation</b> .....	500	—	500	440	60
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>53,680</b>	<b>5,115</b>	<b>58,795</b>	<b>57,295</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)</b>					
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>202</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (CRF) (\$000)</b>					
<b>1. BC Trade and Investment Office</b> .....	714	—	714	429	285
<b>2. Economic Policy</b> .....	150	—	150	102	48
<b>3. Science and Technology</b> .....	30	—	30	14	16
<b>4. Corporate Services</b> .....	205	—	205	80	125
<b>5. Deregulation</b> .....	6	—	6	—	6
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1,105</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>480</b>

<sup>1</sup> Statutory Appropriation

<sup>2</sup> Contingencies for Pacific National Exhibition

## 2002/03 Resource Summary Mirroring the *Estimates* Vote Structure

Table 2

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Minister's Office .....	657	—	657	701	(44)
Corporate Services .....	11,412	946 <sup>2</sup>	12,358	11,517	841
Economic Policy .....	4,852	—	4,852	6,094	(1,242)
BC Trade and Investment Office .....	9,701	—	9,701	9,711	(10)
Science, Technology and Telecommunications .....	17,300	—	17,300	13,652	3,648
BC Film Commission .....	1,188	—	1,188	1,289	(101)
BC Pavilion Corporation .....	5,400	1,369 <sup>1</sup>	6,769	7,469	(700)
Reserves for Doubtful Accounts and Concessionary Loans .....	1,670	2,800 <sup>2</sup>	4,470	6,862	(2,392)
<b>Total — Ministry Operations .....</b>	<b>52,180</b>	<b>5,115</b>	<b>57,295</b>	<b>57,295</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Special Accounts</b>					
Northern Development Fund	1,500	—	1,500	—	1,500
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>53,680</b>	<b>5,115</b>	<b>58,795</b>	<b>57,295</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)</b>					
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (CRF) (\$000)</b>					
Corporate Services .....	211	—	211	80	131
Economic Policy .....	65	—	65	—	65
BC Trade and Investment Office .....	714	—	714	429	285
Science, Technology and Telecommunications .....	30	—	30	14	16
BC Film Commission .....	85	—	85	102	(17)
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>480</b>

<sup>1</sup> Statutory Appropriation

<sup>2</sup> Contingencies for Pacific National Exhibition

**Commentary:**

The Ministry realized operating savings of \$1.5 million, and capital savings of \$0.48 million in 2002/03.

Operating expenditure savings in the Science and Technology Division of \$3.6 million helped offset increased expenditures by the Economic Policy Division, and expenditures on reserves for doubtful accounts.

The Economic Policy Division exceeded its budget by \$1.242 million, mainly as a result of contributions to Tourism British Columbia to increase marketing of tourism opportunities, and contributions to regional tourism authorities for marketing efforts. In addition, the Ministry provided loan loss provisions of \$2.392 million to cover loans made to companies by the previous administration.

The Minister's office variance of \$44,000 was the result of insufficient budget allocated for Ministerial travel and operating costs. There were sufficient savings in other Ministry sub-votes to cover these costs.

BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo)'s variance of \$0.7 million was due to the Ministry writing-down the value of its investment in PavCo.

The Ministry also under spent \$1.5 million for the Northern Development Fund (NDF). The NDF is a fund established under the 1997 British Columbia/Alcan Agreement to promote sustainable economic development in northern British Columbia. The NDF is managed by the Nechako-Kitimaat Development Fund Society. The Ministry anticipated granting the \$1.5 million in 2002/03, however, since the Society had not expended previous contributions the grant was not made.

With respect to capital expenditure, the Ministry had savings of \$0.480 million in 2002/03. This was due to significant FTE reductions and an associated reduction in expenditures on computer equipment and software. The Ministry's FTE count fell from 284 in 2001/02 to 188 in 2002/03, exceeding the FTE target by 14.

The table below shows how the two resource summary operating expenditure tables reconcile.

Division/Agency	Resource Summary by Division/Office (Table 1) Variance (\$000)	Resource Summary Mirroring <i>Estimates</i> (Table 2) Variance (\$000)
<b>British Columbia Trade and Investment Office</b>	(2,402)	(10)
Reserve for Doubtful Accounts .....		(2,392)
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>(2,402)</b>	<b>(2,402)</b>
<b>Economic Policy</b> .....	(1,343)	(1,242)
BC Film .....		(101)
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>(1,343)</b>	<b>(1,343)</b>
<b>Science and Technology</b>		
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>3,648</b>	<b>3,648</b>
<b>Corporate Services</b> .....	1,537	841
Minister's Office .....		(44)
BC Pavilion Corporation .....		(700)
Northern Development Fund .....		1,500
Deregulation .....	60	
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1,597</b>	<b>1,597</b>
<b>Ministry Total</b> .....	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>

# **Annual Service Plan Report Appendices**

## **Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions Reporting to the Minister of Competition, Science and Enterprise**

BC Community Financial Services Corporation

BC Pavilion Corporation

British Columbia Enterprise Corporation (not active)

British Columbia Securities Commission

British Columbia Trade Development Corporation (not active)

Motor Dealer Customer Compensation Fund Board

Nechako-Kitamaat Development Fund Society

Northern Development Commission

Pacific National Exhibition

Science Council of British Columbia

Tourism British Columbia

Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre Authority

Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project Ltd.

## **Legislation Administered by the Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise**

*BC Alcan Northern Development Fund Act*

*British Columbia Enterprise Corporation Act*

*Builders Lien Act*

*Business Paper Reduction Act*

*Community Financial Services Act*

*Employee Investment Act*

*Hotel Guest Registration Act*

*Hotel Keepers Act*

*Ministry of International Business and Immigration Act, except immigration provisions*

*Motor Dealer Act*

*Pacific National Exhibition Act*

*Science Council Act*

*Securities Act*

*Securities (Forged Transfer) Act*

*Small Business Venture Capital Act*

*Telephone (Rural) Act*

*Tourism Act*

*Tourism British Columbia Act*

*Trade Development Corporation Act*

*Travel Regulation Act*