

Ministry of
Aboriginal Relations
and Reconciliation

2013/14
Annual Service Plan Report



Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement



I am pleased to present the *Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 2013/14 Annual Service Plan Report*, outlining achievements during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014.

The report outlines the ministry's work to build a stronger relationship with First Nations and help close the socio-economic gaps that separate Aboriginal peoples from other British Columbians. This year, the ministry has continued to build on its momentum in strengthening relationships with First Nations, while also promoting economic growth and job creation.

The ministry has continued to play a key role in British Columbia's liquefied natural gas strategy. Earlier this year, the Province reached revenue sharing agreements with Lax Kw'alaams and Metlakatla First Nations to share a portion of provincial government revenues from sole proponent agreements related to the Grassy Point lands.

These agreements also reflect the ministry's commitment to reaching non-treaty agreements under the *BC Jobs Plan*. Other new non-treaty agreements reached this year also include:

- Clean energy revenue sharing agreements with the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, Squamish Nation and Taku River Tlingit First Nation.
- Four economic and community development agreements that will enable Cheslatta Carrier First Nation, Nee-Tahi-Buhn Band, Skin Tyee Nation and Wet'suwet'en First Nation to receive a share of mineral tax revenues collected by the Province from the expansion of the Huckleberry Mine, southwest of Houston.
- Economic and community development agreements to enable the Williams Lake Indian Band and the Xat'sull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) to receive a share of mineral tax revenues collected by the Province enabled by the expansion of the Mt. Polley mine.

British Columbia has also now signed more than 130 Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements, providing economic benefits directly to First Nations communities based on forestry activity.

In addition to great success in non-treaty agreements that bring benefits more quickly to First Nations, British Columbia has continued to make great progress through the British Columbia treaty process:

- In June 2013, Canada passed legislation to ratify the Yale First Nation Final Agreement. This means Yale Nation has a fully ratified final treaty.
- In March of this year, Chief Clint Williams and I signed the Tla'amin Final Agreement, which was subsequently signed by the federal minister in Ottawa.

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In addition, we have signed three new incremental treaty agreements – with the Lake Babine Nation, Kaska Dena Council and Ktunaxa Nation. These agreements facilitate immediate opportunities for First Nations in advance of final treaty.

Each member of the ministry has worked very hard to achieve this progress. Their dedication and commitment will continue to move us forward in building stronger relationships and creating new opportunities for Aboriginal communities across the province, which in turn benefits all British Columbians.

The *Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 2013/14 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the June 2013 revised *Ministry's 2013/14 - 2015/16 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Rustad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Honourable John Rustad
Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

June 25, 2014

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Highlights of the Year

Ongoing Success

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation leads the negotiation and provides implementation support for agreements that allow First Nations to benefit from and participate in development opportunities, including those in the forestry, mining and liquefied natural gas sectors. Over the past several years the ministry has negotiated and finalized a ground breaking number of agreements with First Nations. This success has led to a shift in the ministry's focus from not only negotiation and completion of agreements but also to the coordination, support and carrying out of the legal obligations under those agreements.

Liquefied Natural Gas

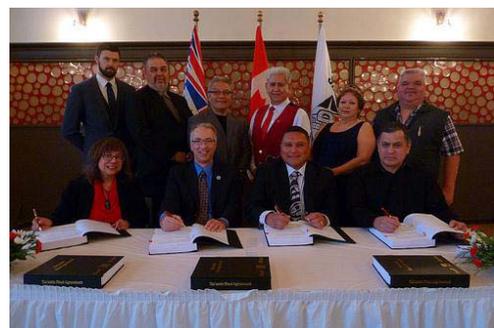
In 2013/14, in response to the minister's mandate letter commitment to work with British Columbia's First Nations impacted by natural gas development, ministry efforts focused on supporting the Province's goal of securing benefits related to this time-limited opportunity. The ministry engaged with 30 plus First Nations affected by natural gas and liquefied natural gas related projects and completed various arrangements, including two revenue sharing agreements with First Nations located in Prince Rupert. The ministry also pursued treaty and other agreements that focus on building certainty on the land base and ensuring that First Nations share the benefits of resource development in their traditional territories.

Tla'amin Final Agreement

One of the many highlights of 2013/14 was the signing of the Tla'amin Final Agreement by the Province and Tla'amin Nation, effectively moving the First Nations community closer to self-determination through modern treaty. The signing of the final agreement represents the culmination of ten years of hard work and negotiations involving the Tla'amin Nation, the Province and the federal government and fulfils an important minister's mandate letter commitment to work with British Columbia's First Nations to secure long-term treaties that provide economic benefit for all British Columbians.

Representatives of the federal government have recently brought the final agreement to Ottawa for signing and have introduced settlement legislation as the final step in the ratification of this agreement.

Following royal assent by Canada, Tla'amin Nation, Canada and British Columbia will work to complete the tasks required to bring the final agreement (the treaty) into legal effect, which is targeted for April 2016.



Signing of the Tla'amin Final Agreement by the Province and Tla'amin Nation.

Non-Treaty Agreements

The ministry continues to make significant progress towards the *BC Jobs Plan* goal and minister's mandate letter commitment of completing new non-treaty agreements with First Nations. For example, the ministry exceeded its 2013/14 target for completion of revenue sharing agreements with First Nations. This significant accomplishment demonstrates the Province's commitment to building proactive and respectful relationships with First Nations that benefit all parties.

Clean energy

The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund was created as part of the *Clean Energy Act* to facilitate increased participation of First Nations in clean, renewable energy projects within their traditional territories. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund supports a diverse range of First Nations projects including several that have also successfully participated in the BC Hydro Standing Offer Program.

Since 2011, British Columbia has invested more than \$5.1 million and is supporting the participation of over 90 Aboriginal communities in the clean-energy sector, including wind energy, biomass and run-of-river hydroelectric power. In 2013, British Columbia signed the first four clean energy revenue sharing agreements with First Nations. These First Nations are now sharing in the revenues received from clean energy projects based on new, net, incremental revenues to government. The First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund allows for revenue sharing with successful applicants, based on provincial resource rents, (i.e. land and water rentals), prescribed under the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund regulation, that result from clean energy projects that receive land or water authorizations after the enactment of the *Clean Energy Act*.



Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister John Rustad and Chief Councillor Moses Martin celebrate a new agreement that will enable the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations to share revenue from the Haa-ak-suuk Creek Power Project

Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan

Over the past year, the ministry has taken steps to implement the *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan* which was initiated in 2011 to improve socio-economic outcomes for off-reserve Aboriginal peoples¹ in British Columbia. Local, federal and provincial governments have partnered with Aboriginal communities to develop and implement the plan's goals and objectives. Notable successes flowing from the *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan* include the

¹ Canada's Aboriginal population is distinct and diverse. The *Constitution Act* recognizes the Aboriginal peoples of Canada as the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. "First Nation" is the generally preferred term for Indian peoples of Canada. The term Aboriginal as used throughout this document includes all people of Aboriginal ancestry, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit. The term communities means the diversity of Aboriginal communities as defined by Aboriginal people and includes descriptions such as urban, rural, metropolitan, land-based and reserve. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation works with all Aboriginal peoples wherever they may live in British Columbia.

development of five community pilot projects located in Duncan, Kamloops, Prince George, Surrey and Vancouver. The ministry engaged with the five communities to support the development of community-driven action plans reflecting local interests and ultimately improving socio-economic outcomes for off-reserve Aboriginal peoples.

Building Capacity in Aboriginal Relations

The ministry has also experienced great success in its internal government work. The ministry's collaboration with the Public Service Agency to develop a dynamic e-learning course, *Building Capacity in Aboriginal Relations: We are all here to stay*, was recently awarded a provincial Nesika Award.

Purpose of Ministry

The ministry is the B.C. Government's lead for pursuing reconciliation with the Aboriginal peoples of British Columbia. A key component of reconciliation involves creating relationships that are mutually beneficial through collaboration and commitment. This includes working together to create a strong economy and a secure tomorrow so that all British Columbians, including Aboriginal peoples, are able to pursue their goals. The ministry is responsible for the negotiation, implementation support and development of policy related to all liquefied natural gas, treaty and other agreements with First Nations.

The *BC Jobs Plan* is facilitating transformational changes to British Columbia's economy. For the Province to continue to be successful, uncertainty created by undefined Aboriginal rights must be addressed. Government must work in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to improve their participation in the economy and their quality of life. Three foundational documents provide a framework for the ministry's work: the *New Relationship*, the *Transformative Change Accord*, and the *Métis Nation Relationship Accord*. There are many paths to reconciliation and the ministry uses a variety of tools and approaches to respond to the diverse needs and interests of Aboriginal peoples.

At a strategic level, work is focused in three key areas:

- Building respectful relationships with Aboriginal peoples.
- Addressing legal and economic uncertainty created by undefined Aboriginal rights through reconciliation of Aboriginal rights and title through lasting agreements (treaty and other agreements).
- Closing the socio-economic gaps between Aboriginal peoples and other British Columbians.

Natural Resource Sector Coordination

Government continues to work upon an improved platform for coordination and integration among the natural resource ministries: Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Agriculture; Energy and Mines; Natural Gas Development; Environment; and Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. Under the direction of the Natural Resource Board, these ministries are making bold changes to service delivery in the natural resource sector. This sector approach promotes streamlined authorization processes and enhanced access to natural resource public services across the province. The restructuring facilitates more consistent engagement and consultation with industry, stakeholders, partners and clients. It also enhances inclusion of Aboriginal, economic and environmental considerations into decision making. The ministries are working together to make these improvements and meet the commitments of the *Province of British Columbia Strategic Plan 2014/15-2017/18* and the *BC Jobs Plan*.

The ministry negotiates and supports the implementation of treaties and related agreements with First Nations and Canada. Treaties offer the most comprehensive form of reconciliation agreement, and the highest degree of certainty on the land base. Treaties provide First Nations with significant tools for social and economic development and self-government

The ministry's regional offices support the management of relationships with First Nations and provide local support for negotiation of a wide range of agreements. The regional presence serves as a liaison with other resource ministries and supports conflict resolution. The regional offices also provide advice to industry on engaging with First Nations.

Building relationships and developing strong partnerships

The ministry builds relationships with Aboriginal peoples based on respect and recognition. The ministry also plays a key role in promoting creative multi-sectoral and inter-jurisdictional work on initiatives with Aboriginal communities. The ministry works in partnership with Aboriginal communities, organizations and people and brings together representatives from other ministries and Crown agencies, other orders of government, and industry to identify new opportunities for economic participation and investment and job creation to support the goals of the *BC Jobs Plan*.

The ministry supports the Aboriginal Business and Investment Council and meets with proponents to facilitate arrangements with First Nations that create partnerships and support for liquefied natural gas, mining, forestry and other development opportunities.

The ministry also works with other provincial ministries, such as Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, to increase capacity in Aboriginal communities through apprenticeship and skills training programs. These ministry initiatives, developed based on the *BC Jobs Plan* and minister's mandate letter commitments, are supporting Aboriginal peoples to become the future of British Columbia's skilled workforce.

Providing leadership and expert advice on policy relating to Aboriginal peoples

The ministry provides industry proponents and natural resource sector staff with strategic advice and best practices on a broad spectrum of issues to improve their ability to work successfully and partner with First Nations. Since 2011, the ministry and the Business Council of British Columbia have worked together to identify opportunities to improve business practices for engaging with First Nations and to support capacity building for First Nations to engage efficiently and meaningfully.

In 2013/14 the ministry continued to build on the work of six industry engagement sessions co-facilitated with the Business Council of British Columbia in 2012. An important outcome of these sessions was the development of an action plan to be implemented by the Province in collaboration with the Business Council of British Columbia. During the past year, the ministry and the Business Council of British Columbia worked together to complete various action plan items focused on improving current business practices and providing greater clarity for industry on government's current procedures for consulting with First Nations. The ministry recently updated and distributed the *Guide to Involving Proponents When Consulting First Nations* to proponents through the Business Council of British Columbia.

The ministry also supports cross-government policy frameworks related to Crown-Aboriginal relations, economic development, social sectors (health, education and housing) and language and culture initiatives. In addition, the ministry is responsible for intergovernmental relations and national policy discussions on issues concerning Aboriginal peoples on and off-reserve. The

ministry supports and advises other ministries as they develop and implement Aboriginal social and economic policies and programs, such as the Aboriginal Business and Investment Council developed under the *BC Jobs Plan*.

Strengthening relationships with the Métis Nation

The ministry continues to work in partnership with Métis Nation British Columbia to achieve the objectives of the *Métis Nation Relationship Accord* and the *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan*. The ministry supports Métis Nation British Columbia's efforts to enhance educational opportunities and to reinforce and regenerate Métis identity, history and culture through education. Métis are distinct Aboriginal people, with unique language, history, and cultural traditions. Approximately 30 per cent of British Columbia's Aboriginal population self-identifies as Métis.

Advancing the revitalization of Aboriginal language and culture

There are many strong and complex connections between language, culture and Aboriginal community well-being and sustainability. Language plays an important role in maintaining and reinforcing cultural identity. British Columbia is home to 32 distinct First Nations languages, representing about 60 per cent of all the indigenous languages in Canada. The ministry supports the revitalization of First Nations language, heritage, culture and arts through the work of the First Peoples' Cultural Council (formerly the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council). The First Peoples' Cultural Council is a Crown corporation established by the Province in 1990 by the *First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Act* (the Act). The Act established the First Peoples' Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors to support and guide the work of the First Peoples' Cultural Council. Its mandate includes the following:

- Preserve, restore and revitalize First Nations heritage, language, arts and culture.
- Heighten the appreciation and acceptance of the wealth of cultural diversity among all British Columbians.
- Provide funding to British Columbia's First Nations for arts, cultural and language programs.
- Advise government on the preservation and fostering of First Nations heritage, arts, languages and culture.
- Work in partnership with First Nations communities to revitalize and archive their cultures and languages and restore literacy and fluency in First Nations languages.

Strategic Context

The legal context

Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982 recognizes and affirms existing Aboriginal and treaty rights. Through a number of important decisions, the courts have reinforced that Aboriginal rights and title exist and that these rights influence the way government operates. The Supreme Court of Canada has stated that the ability of government to infringe those rights is constrained. Governments are legally required to consult and accommodate (where required) First Nations on decisions which have the potential to impact asserted or established rights. The ministry is the lead agency within the provincial government for providing guidance on the Crown's consultation and accommodation obligations and, negotiating and implementing treaty and other arrangements that seek to resolve Aboriginal rights issues for First Nations and all British Columbians.

Demographic and social factors

In British Columbia, the Aboriginal population is characterized by unique demographic qualities that inform policy and program decisions. British Columbia is home to over one-third of the more than 600 First Nations communities in Canada. This comprises the most culturally and linguistically diverse groups of Aboriginal peoples in the country.

The province's Aboriginal population is generally much younger than the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, nearly 45 per cent of the Aboriginal population was under 25 years old compared to nearly 28 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population. In contrast, only 16 per cent of the Aboriginal population was over 55 years of age compared to 30 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population².

In order to respond to the rising Aboriginal youth population, the B.C. Government engages Aboriginal youth on related provincial policy and program development. The ministry is working with youth to build constructive relations and promote leadership and mentorship. British Columbia is also working with Aboriginal communities to ensure Aboriginal youth have the skills and training to take advantage of the demand for skilled workers.

Increasing urbanization is another demographic consideration. The 2011 Census reports that nearly 78 per cent of the Aboriginal population in British Columbia lived off-reserve. The majority of the Aboriginal population in British Columbia lived in Vancouver (23.0 per cent); however, they comprised only 2.3 per cent of the total population in that city. The largest concentration of Aboriginal peoples was found in Prince Rupert (38.3 per cent of the total population), followed by Terrace (21.0 per cent) and Williams Lake (20.6 per cent).

² Source: BC Stats: 2011 Census Fast Facts

Negotiation and implementation of agreements

British Columbia has responded to the need to reconcile Aboriginal rights with a flexible set of treaty and other types of agreements that can be tailored to the needs and situations of individual First Nations in and out of the treaty process. Building on the momentum of agreements finalized in 2012/13, the ministry continued to achieve a variety of agreements in 2013/14. Due to the great success in completion of agreements over the past several years the ministry's focus on implementing agreements is growing. These efforts related to negotiation and implementation of agreements directly support development in the resource sector and provide opportunities for First Nation communities to share in the benefits of development.

Economic context

In order to support the Province's plan to balance the budget and control spending, in 2013/14, the ministry initiated expenditure restraint measures, including adhering to government-wide Managed Hiring Guidelines, travel restrictions, and other operating cost- management initiatives. The ministry participated in the core review process and is committed to meeting its fiscal objectives while minimizing negative impacts on stakeholders.

Report on Performance

Performance Results Summary Table

Goal 1: Immediate opportunities for improved Aboriginal and First Nation participation in the economy and increased certainty for development For greater detail see pages 15 to 18	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual
Objective 1: Improved economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Measure 1: Revenue sharing agreements 	4	6 EXCEEDED
Objective 2: Respectfully reconcile provincial interests with First Nations Aboriginal and treaty rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Measure 2: Treaties and related agreements Performance Measure 3: Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements 	7 117	4 NOT ACHIEVED 136 EXCEEDED
Goal 2: Reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia For greater detail see pages 18 to 22	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual
Objective 3: Establish respectful relationships with Aboriginal peoples as a model for all British Columbians		
Objective 4: Seek opportunities for early engagement of Aboriginal peoples on initiatives that affect their families and their communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Measure 4: Strategic agreements 	7	4 NOT ACHIEVED
Objective 5: Work with Aboriginal peoples to enhance and build capacity in Aboriginal communities, governments and organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Measure 5: Capacity building 	12	19 EXCEEDED
Objective 6: Work across government to support the delivery of programs and services to off-reserve and urban Aboriginal populations		N/A
Objective 7: Strengthen the Province's capacity to engage effectively with Aboriginal peoples <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Measure 6: Applied knowledge of Aboriginal peoples 	Maintain or improve on 59%	Did not measure for 2013/14

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

Goal 1: Immediate opportunities for improved Aboriginal and First Nation participation in the economy and increased certainty for development

Reconciliation is an ongoing process which is rarely straightforward. It requires trust and commitment to overcome stumbling blocks and a willingness to learn from each other at all stages. Relationships built on mutual respect are key factors in making reconciliation possible.

Objective 1: Improved economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Negotiate and sign agreements with First Nations that create economic and social benefits, including revenue sharing agreements.
- Directly engage with business and industry to improve relationships with First Nations.
- Work across ministries to support Aboriginal peoples access to programs and services associated with economic development including business venture opportunities and access to programs and services associated with skills development and training.
- Work across government and in partnership with Aboriginal peoples, to implement the *Transformative Change Accord* and *Métis Nation Relationship Accord*. Monitor and report on activities and progress on meeting these goals.

Performance Measure 1: Revenue sharing agreements

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed revenue sharing agreements with First Nations (economic and community development agreements and economic benefit agreements).	8	4	6	4	4	4

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Note: The combined total of the 2013/14 forecasts and the 2014/15 targets for performance measures 1 and 4 are intended to align with the ministry's goal of securing 10 new non-treaty agreements with First Nations across British Columbia by 2015.

Discussion of Results

During 2013/14, the ministry made significant progress in ensuring First Nation communities benefit from resource development within their traditional territories. For mining sector revenue sharing agreements, the ministry exceeded its target, bringing more First Nations into greater partnership around new mine and major expansion projects than projected to be achieved in the year. Participating in economic and community development agreements helps government meet its *BC Jobs Plan* commitment to improve opportunities for First Nations to participate in resource development. These agreements support greater certainty on mining projects for First Nations, government and industry.

The actual of six agreements identified above represents economic and community development agreements only. The ministry did not complete any economic benefit agreements in 2013/14. Mine economic and community development agreements provide direct mineral tax revenues, whereas economic benefit agreements involve revenue sharing from several sectors including oil and gas projects.

The provincial commitment to share mineral tax revenue through mine economic and community development agreements resulted in payments to First Nations in 2013/14 of approximately \$12 million. First Nations will use this revenue for initiatives consistent with the *New Relationship* and *Transformative Change Accord* goals, supporting initiatives related to education, culture, housing, infrastructure, health, economic development, governance capacity, and any other priorities the First Nations seek to address consistent with enhancing their socio-economic well-being. First Nations report out to the Province highlighting how the revenue share payments have contributed to the achievement of their identified socio-economic priorities.

These agreements provide for First Nations and the Province to engage in defined consultation processes that enhance certainty for a project, supporting positive relationships and partnership between government, First Nations and industry. They support the objectives and targets of the *BC Jobs Plan*, contributing to the economic health of the Province and particularly the communities that directly support the mines.

In order to fulfill the minister's mandate letter commitment during 2013/14, the ministry supported discussions with First Nations whose traditional territory is in the area of a newly proposed refinery.

Objective 2: Respectfully reconcile provincial interests with First Nations Aboriginal and treaty rights

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Support the conclusion of agreements between First Nations, the B.C. Government and local governments.

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- Continue to seek improvements to treaty making through tripartite processes, including treaty revitalization.
- Link economic development to treaty through land transfers for current and future use.
- Work within government, with First Nations and with First Nations leaders to understand, clarify and seek solutions to issues involving Aboriginal rights and title.

Performance Measure 2: Treaties and related agreements

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed treaties, incremental treaty agreements and agreements-in-principle.	11	7	4	5	5	5

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Discussion of Results

Over the past several years, the ministry completed a number of ground-breaking agreements. In order to meet obligations under these agreements during 2013/14, the ministry resourced effective implementation of new treaties and related agreements. The ministry did not meet its target of seven completed treaties, incremental treaty agreements and agreements-in-principle as in part because of an ongoing shift of efforts towards implementing achieved agreements, and increased negotiations regarding revenue and benefits sharing to capitalize on resource opportunities.

The specific nature of this measure is related to completed treaty-related agreements only and does not accurately account for all of the ministry's current work in relation to treaties and related agreements such as policy development and implementation. As such, this fiscal year, the ministry will introduce the following additional strategy that will be considered toward this performance measure:

- Continue to harness government-to-government opportunities under treaty agreements to grow the economy and create jobs for local communities and British Columbians.

In addition to implementing agreements with First Nations that will ensure all British Columbians benefit from project or sector-specific natural resource opportunities, the ministry also pursued treaty-related agreements that focus on building general certainty on the land base. In 2013/14, the Province reached some significant milestones in the treaty process. For example, the ministry signed two final agreements with Tla'amin Nation and Yale First Nation which represents the culmination of years of negotiation and collaboration and two incremental treaty agreements with Lake Babine Nation and Kaska Dena Council. Contributing toward the key strategy for this performance measure, the ministry signed the Maa-nulth government-to-government, Foreshore and Enforcement agreements.

Performance Measure 3: Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual*	2013/14 Target*	2013/14 Actual*	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed agreements under the Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement program.	108	117	136	124	128	130

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. *Cumulative totals include the forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements that were signed in previous years as well as renewals.

Discussion of Results

Introduced in 2010, forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements provide First Nations communities with economic benefits returning directly to their community based on harvest activities in their traditional territory.

In addition to revenue sharing, forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements also provide a consultation process for operational decisions related to forestry in the area. This enhances consultation efficiency, provides certainty to the land base and provides a positive investment environment for industry and opportunities for First Nations and non-First Nations community members.

First Nations have used the revenue to support community initiatives and infrastructure projects ranging from economic development in forestry, lands and resource development to afterschool care and education programs. Other uses include funding community hall improvements and community information sessions.

In 2013/14, the ministry continued to have great success in negotiating forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements with First Nations. The ministry exceeded its target for 2013/14 and now participates in 136 forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements with First Nations across the province. Based on the ministry's efforts more than half of all First Nations in British Columbia now participate in a forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements.

The 2014/15 target noted above is consistent with the target published in the ministry's current 2014/15 – 2016/17 Service Plan. As the ministry has already exceeded the target for 2014/15, the ministry will revise targets for this measure in future service plans.

Goal 2: Reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia

Successful reconciliation produces long-term social, economic and cultural advantages for all British Columbians. Reconciliation is an ongoing process and it is rarely straightforward. It requires trust and commitment to overcome stumbling blocks along the way, and a willingness to learn from each other at all stages. Relationships built on mutual respect and recognition are key in achieving reconciliation.

Objective 3: Establish respectful relationships with Aboriginal peoples as a model for all British Columbians

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Facilitate and support collaboration among Aboriginal organizations, all levels of government and the private sector on initiatives aimed at improving social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.
- Provide advice, guidance and direction to industry in engaging with Aboriginal peoples.
- Avoid confrontation and resolve issues.
- Engage with the First Nations Leadership Council³ to reach shared goals regarding improving First Nations communities.
- Work with other provinces, territories, the federal government and national Aboriginal organizations to initiate and coordinate efforts to address issues of mutual interest.

Objective 4: Seek opportunities for early engagement of Aboriginal peoples on initiatives that affect their families and their communities

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Support First Nations access to land and resource tenures.
- Negotiate and implement agreements with First Nations, including treaties, which contribute to improved social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.
- Meet, or exceed, the Province's commitment to 10 new non-treaty agreements by 2015, as included in the BC Jobs Plan.

Performance Measure 4: Strategic agreements

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of completed agreements that support strategic engagement with First Nations, including reconciliation agreements and strategic engagement agreements.	7	7	4	7	7	7

**Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

³ The First Nations Leadership Council is made up of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations, the First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

Discussion of Results

Strategic agreements ensure First Nations benefit from development opportunities, identify areas of common interest with the Province and create mutual goals through meaningful engagement processes. Specific elements of each agreement are flexible, depending on the parties' objectives, local needs, and relationship history. Strategic engagement agreements establish a government-to-government relationship and improve processes for decision making. Reconciliation agreements are specifically designed to increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish a process for collaborative decision making and create economic opportunities for First Nations communities.

During 2013/14, the ministry's focus shifted from negotiation of strategic engagement and reconciliation agreements to implementation for completed agreements and support for time-limited corporate priorities such as liquefied natural gas development. Never in the Province's history has the ministry had the level of success in completing agreements with First Nations as has been accomplished in the last several years. However, in 2013/14 this success has resulted in a shift in ministry efforts, from negotiation to implementation of all natural resource sector agreements. Because of this shift in direction from negotiation to implementation, the ministry did not meet its 2013/14 target for completing agreements that support strategic engagement with First Nations.

Over the past year the ministry pursued those agreements which maintained positive relationships built under current strategic engagement relationships. For example, in 2013/14, the ministry extended a strategic engagement agreement pilot with Sto:lo First Nation and renewed the Ktunaxa strategic engagement agreement. The ministry also signed a new strategic engagement agreement with the Secwepemc First Nations.

Objective 5: Work with Aboriginal peoples to enhance and build capacity in Aboriginal communities, governments and organizations

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Manage the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund and lead negotiation of carbon offset-sharing arrangements with First Nations.
- Provide economic opportunities through the implementation of agreements with Aboriginal peoples.
- Support governance and capacity initiatives in Aboriginal communities, governments and organizations including working with First Nations through multi-sectoral partnerships such as the Tahltan Socio-cultural Working Group and the *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan*.
- Support Métis governance and capacity development on a tripartite basis.
- Improve data collection and reporting specific to off-reserve/urban Aboriginal populations.

- Work with Aboriginal youth organizations to support Aboriginal youth to develop their capacity and opportunities for engaging with government on issues of importance to them.

Performance Measure 5: Capacity building

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Number of capacity-building engagements with communities, youth and Aboriginal organizations.	12	12	19	12	12	12

**Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Discussion of Results

In 2013/14, the ministry participated in a significant number of engagements with Aboriginal youth, communities and organizations. Exceeding the target for engagements for 2013/14 is an example of the ministry’s ongoing commitment to participating in meaningful dialogue with Aboriginal youth, communities and organizations. This work has led to the development of important capacity-building initiatives such as short-term work exchanges, job shadowing, human resource development and youth leadership.

The ministry’s efforts also support government’s Diversity and Inclusiveness Strategy and enhance initiatives such as the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program and the Building Public Service Capacity in Aboriginal Relations Strategy.

Objective 6: Work across government to support the delivery of programs and services to off-reserve and urban Aboriginal populations

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Work with provincial ministries to identify how to better coordinate programs to improve outcomes.
- Work with provincial ministries, Aboriginal partners, the federal government and local governments to develop an *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan*.
- Undertake evidence-based research to support the Aboriginal action plan.
- Work with the five *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan* pilot communities (Vancouver, Surrey, Duncan, Prince George and Kamloops) to support the implementation of the second phase of the *Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan*.

Objective 7: Strengthen the Province’s capacity to engage effectively with Aboriginal peoples

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Support public service employees in working effectively, respectfully and knowledgably with Aboriginal peoples.
- Coordinate and streamline consultation processes and provide information management systems to government and provincial government partners.
- Provide strategic advice across government and facilitate coordinated consultation strategies for major projects with multi-agency authorizations.

Performance Measure 6: Applied knowledge of Aboriginal peoples

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target	2016/17 Target
Percentage of public service employees who are able to use their knowledge of Aboriginal peoples, histories and cultures to influence their day-to-day work.*	Improving	Maintain or improve on 59%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. *The data is taken from a survey of public service employees.

Discussion of Results

The ministry developed a strategy called Building Public Service Capacity in Aboriginal Relations. This strategy features a new website for public service employees that houses resources and tools to support public service employees in working effectively, respectfully and knowledgably with Aboriginal peoples. The strategy also contains a performance measurement framework, including a survey for provincial public service employees, gauging perceptions of how well the provincial government is working in Aboriginal relations. Due to competing priorities, a survey was not conducted for 2013/14 so results for this performance measure were not obtained.

This measure has been removed from the current 2014/15 – 2016/17 Service Plan as the development of various resources to support public service employees in using their knowledge of Aboriginal peoples, histories and cultures to influence their day-to-day work has been completed.

Report on Resources: Summary Table

Core Business Area	2013/14 Estimates ¹	Other Authorizations ²	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance ³
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Negotiations and Regional Operations	13,537	1,138	14,675	11,517	(3,158) ⁴
Partnerships and Community Renewal	4,003	1,100	5,103	4,990	(113)
Strategic Initiatives	13,150	1,550	14,700	14,480	(220)
Executive and Support Services	3,862	0	3,862	7,353	3,491 ⁵
Treaty and Other Agreements Funding	43,086	18,494	61,580	61,580	0
First Citizens' Fund Special Account	3,030	0	3,030	3,025	(5)
First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund Special Account	1,811	137	1,948	1,948	0
Sub Total	82,479	22,419	104,898	104,894	(5)
Prior Year Accrual Reversals	0	0	0	(1,171)	(1,171)
Total	82,479	22,419	104,898	103,723	(1,175)
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)					
Executive and Support Services	1	0	1	0	(1)
Total	1	0	1	0	(1)

¹ The amounts in the "2013/14 Estimates" column correspond to the *Estimates* as presented to the legislative assembly in June 2013.

² "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

³ "Variance" represents "Actual" minus "Total Estimated". If the Actual is greater than the Total Estimated, the Variance will be displayed as a positive number.

⁴ The expenditures in Negotiations and Regional Operations are lower primarily due to centralization of Ministry legal costs resulting in payments from Executive and Support Services.

⁵ The expenditures in Executive and Support Services are higher primarily due to the centralization of Ministry legal costs resulting in payments for the entire Ministry from this core business.

Annual Service Plan Report Appendices

Appendix A: Ministry Contact Information

Physical Address:

2957 Jutland Road
Victoria, BC V8T 5J9

Mailing Address:

PO Box 9100
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9B1

Telephone: 1-800-880-1022

E-mail: ABRInfo@gov.bc.ca

URL: www.gov.bc.ca/arr

Appendix B: Hyperlinks to Additional Information

BC Treaty Commission

www.bctreaty.net/index.php

Métis Nation Relationship Accord

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/social/accord.html>

New Relationship

www.gov.bc.ca/arr/newrelationship/down/new_relationship.pdf

New Relationship Trust

www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/

Transformative Change Accord

www.gov.bc.ca/arr/social/down/transformative_change_accord.pdf

A list of statutes that fall under the responsibility of the ministry can be found at:

www.leg.bc.ca/procs/allacts/arr.htm

Appendix C: List of Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions

First Peoples' Cultural Council

www.fphlcc.ca/