

**Ministry of  
Aboriginal Relations  
and Reconciliation**

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**2016/17  
Annual Service Plan Report**

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Published by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

## Minister's Message and Accountability Statement



I am honoured to present the *Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report*, which outlines achievements during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017 and compares the ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the *2016/17 - 2018/19 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

I would like to express my gratitude to the dedicated and creative public service professionals in the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation for their efforts to achieve these results.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rustad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Honourable John Rustad  
Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
June 19, 2017*

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## Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (the ministry) leads the Province of British Columbia's reconciliation priorities with First Nations and Aboriginal peoples<sup>1</sup>. Partnerships, enhanced relationships, and engagement create opportunities to pursue reconciliation so that all British Columbians, including First Nations and Aboriginal peoples, are able to pursue their social and economic goals. To enable these opportunities, manage the land base, and recognize Aboriginal rights, the B.C. Government works directly with First Nations and enters into agreements that support participation in financial benefits, skills training, and environmental stewardship projects that result from a strong economy.

The ministry uses different means to pursue reconciliation because reconciliation has different meanings in each Aboriginal community. Treaties, agreements, partnerships and other reconciliation initiatives are important tools for government and Aboriginal peoples to establish negotiated relationships that reconcile rights, and contribute to prosperous communities.

The ministry is also responsible for the First Peoples' Cultural Council, a provincial Crown Corporation formed by the Government of British Columbia in 1990. British Columbia is the only province in Canada that has established a Crown Corporation that leads First Nations' heritage, language, culture and arts initiatives. For information about FPCC, visit their website at [www.fpcc.ca](http://www.fpcc.ca).

## Strategic Direction and Context

### Strategic Direction

The *BC Jobs Plan* continued to create opportunities in B.C.'s economy in 2016. British Columbia's real GDP increased by 3.7 per cent in 2016 (according to preliminary GDP by industry data from Statistics Canada), which was the strongest growth among provinces. Employment in B.C. grew by 3.2 per cent in 2016, its fastest annual pace since 1994. Consumer spending was strong for a third consecutive year as retail sales were supported by strong employment growth, increased tourism, interprovincial migration, and low interest rates. B.C.'s housing market saw elevated levels of activity in 2016, with the highest number of annual housing starts since 1993. B.C. manufacturing shipments and exports expanded in 2016 as goods exports to both the United States and the rest of the world increased.

To realize the opportunities associated with the growing economy in 2016, the Province of British Columbia and First Nations advanced innovative and effective ways to increase partnerships and

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<sup>1</sup> 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 peoples 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.

positive relationships, and supported avenues to reconcile provincial interests with the rights of First Nations and Aboriginal peoples.

Recognizing the importance of working together to create a strong economy and secure tomorrow, the Minister's [2015 Mandate Letter](#) outlined the crucial factors to meeting its purpose. The Mandate Letter instructs the ministry to:

- Work with B.C. First Nations that are in the Treaty Process and have an opportunity to secure a treaty with British Columbia and Canada to provide all parties with economic benefit and long lasting security.
- Work with the Tsilhqot'in National Government to implement the Letter of Understanding signed with the Province of British Columbia.
- Work with the B.C. Treaty Commission Principals to develop a more inclusive approach to the BC Treaty Process.
- Work with B.C. First Nations that participate in and benefit from natural gas extraction, pipelines or LNG facilities to ensure they are provided with the ability to participate in this generational opportunity.
- Continue to implement the commitment to B.C. First Nations to expand the number of non-treaty agreements to further economic development opportunities that benefit both British Columbia and First Nations.
- Work with B.C. First Nations to ensure they continue to participate in and benefit from the Clean Energy Standing Offer by BC Hydro through the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund.
- Work with BC Hydro to ensure First Nations have the ability to participate in economic development opportunities arising from the construction of the Site C dam.
- Work with the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training to increase the number of First Nations participating in apprenticeship and skills-training programs to ensure economic prosperity includes First Nations members.
- Work with the Ministry of Energy and Mines on the Mining Dialogue with First Nations that was committed following the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond collapse.
- Host the annual meeting between First Nations leaders and the Provincial Government.
- Work with the Ministries of Justice, Health and Children and Family Development to continue to implement Violence Free BC.

The ministry fulfilled these mandate commitments in 2016/17, while controlling spending to ensure a balanced budget for the Province as outlined in the [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#)

### **Strategic Context**

On June 2, 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (the Commission) released 94 calls to action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of reconciliation. The Commission's report called on all levels of government in Canada to work together and show leadership, courage, and conviction to help heal the wounds of the past and work towards a more just and fair country. The Province's approaches to reconciliation in 2016 align with the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action and the ministry continued its collaborative approach with Canada and Aboriginal leaders in B.C.

Reconciliation requires willing and productive relationships and ongoing engagement with all British Columbians. To strengthen transparency, dialogue, and support among stakeholders for B.C.'s approach to reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples, in 2016/17, the ministry led the implementation of enhanced stakeholder engagement practices to increase dialogue and awareness of the rights of, and government's partnerships with, First Nations and Aboriginal peoples.

Following the Supreme Court of Canada's 2014 decision to grant Aboriginal title to the Tsilhqot'in Nation to land outside of an Indian reserve – a first in Canada – the Province and Tsilhqot'in Nation signed the [Nenqay Deni Accord](#) ("The People's Accord"), a five-year framework agreement that establishes a shared vision and structures to negotiate lasting reconciliation. The People's Accord was signed in early 2016. Following the signing, progress has been made on an economic development plan and, community safety issues, as well as creating collaborative resource management planning including renewal of an agreement for shared decision-making that respects land and resource management.

The ministry has worked with the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) to develop a three-year work plan for the B.C.-First Nations Commitment Document, which outlines an agenda that commits the B.C. Government and FNLC to advance the Crown-First Nation relationship in a post-Tsilhqot'in decision environment. The document reflects the B.C. Government's commitment to reconciliation through government-to-government relationships with First Nations, and outlines work the provincial government needs to undertake with First Nations leaders to close economic and social gaps, to collaborate on land and resource decisions, and to be full partners in the economic life of B.C.

Aboriginal communities are increasingly seeking provisions and commitments from government to strengthen and promote social and community well-being. In 2016, the ministry supported community well-being within a variety of reconciliation agreements including Northern Nations (Kaska, Tahltan, Taku River Tlingit First Nations), Nanwakolas First Nations, Tsilhqot'in Nation, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council, shísháhlh Nation, Lake Babine Nation, and Cheslatta First Nation.

In March 2016, the B.C. Government and the First Nations Health Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work towards partnerships on the social determinants of health – which are complex and interconnected dimensions of well-being that include the physical, spiritual, and emotional wellness of individuals and communities, through all stages of life. Following the signing, the ministry and other government partners participated in five regional caucus sessions with the First Nations Health Authority to discuss regional strategies with a strong focus on supporting child and family development.

In May 2016, the ministry worked in partnership to host the First Nations Children and Family Gathering to discuss Indigenous child welfare. The provincial government is working with the federal government and the FNLC to explore new approaches to the delivery of child welfare services in British Columbia. This led to April 2017, when the B.C. Government, the federal government and the FNLC signed a Reconciliation Charter committing to work together to improve outcomes for First Nations children, youth and families and reduce the number of First Nations children going into care.

The ministry continued to support the valuable work of the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women (MACAW) to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal women in British

Columbia during 2016/17. This included MACAW hosting a Cross-Ministry Roundtable on Aboriginal Women in B.C. on June 28, 2016 in Victoria, which brought together deputy ministers from across the B.C. Government to advance more ways in which the Province and the MACAW can work together more collaboratively.

In April 2016, under the Daniels case, the Federal Court determined that Métis and non-status Indians are “Indians” within the meaning of s. 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867*. While this decision does not affect the Province’s consultation policy, it strengthened the ongoing work to engage with the Métis population in B.C. (the fourth largest in Canada). The [Métis Nation Relationship Accord II](#) was signed in November 2016 and outlines how the provincial government works with Métis people to address social and economic goals. In October 2016, the Province also appointed a Parliamentary Secretary for Métis Relations to support and advance collaboration with the Métis community.

## Report on Performance

In 2016/17, the ministry continued its work to close socio-economic gaps and build reconciliation with First Nations and Aboriginal communities through partnerships and full engagement in economic development, understanding that what is meant by reconciliation is influenced by the legal landscape, the needs of individual Aboriginal communities, and the expectations of both government and First Nations.

Cost discipline, as outlined in the [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#), benefits all British Columbians, including First Nations and Aboriginal peoples. The ministry focused on developing partnerships with Aboriginal peoples to foster a prosperous economy, while being committed to balancing the budget.

The ministry worked with provincial partners, the federal government, and First Nations to foster economic development and respond to social and community-based priorities by concluding 21 non-treaty agreements. Specific elements of each agreement are flexible, depending on the parties’ objectives, local needs, and relationship history.

Concluding these negotiations demonstrates the ministry’s commitment to reach agreements with First Nations that are relevant to each community’s unique needs. The ministry continued to work with First Nations to support their ability to participate in, and benefit from, the emerging Liquefied Natural Gas industry, the clean energy sector, and economic opportunities arising from major projects.

In addition to continued support for non-treaty agreements in 2016/17, the Province continued its commitment to the treaty negotiations process and worked with the other principals to the B.C. treaty process (Canada and the First Nations Summit) on developing better approaches, and to confirm a new chief commissioner of the B.C. Treaty Commission.

To address the barriers that Aboriginal people often face in finding employment, the ministry pursued partnerships with First Nations, industry, and education institutions to deliver unique foundational skills and training programs, resulting in more than 1,300 Aboriginal people receiving training in 2016/17.

Progress also continued to be made with the Tsilhqot'in National Government to implement the People's Accord through an economic development plan, community safety discussions, and collaborative resource management planning. The ministry also worked to help the public better understand this framework agreement through open houses and engagement with stakeholders.

To collaborate directly with First Nations leadership, the ministry also successfully hosted the BC Cabinet First Nations Leaders' Gathering, which included extensive one-on-one discussions through almost 300 individual meetings.

## Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

***Goal 1: Create immediate opportunities for improved Aboriginal participation in the economy and increased certainty for development.***

**Objective 1.1: Improve economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.**

### Strategies

- In collaboration with natural resource sector ministries, negotiate and sign agreements with First Nations that create economic and social benefits, including resource revenue sharing agreements with First Nations affected by industries such as mining.
- Partner with First Nations, Aboriginal communities, and organizations to support community-based skills, training, and employment initiatives.
- Manage the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund and lead negotiation of carbon offset-sharing arrangements with First Nations.

### ***Performance Measure 1: Revenue Sharing Agreements***

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of completed new revenue sharing agreements with First Nations.	3	5	4	6	4	5

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

### Discussion

Consistent with the strategies outlined above, in 2016/17, the ministry continued its leadership in resource revenue and benefits sharing with First Nations. The Province concluded negotiations with First Nations potentially affected by resource development in their traditional territories. These revenue sharing agreements enable greater process certainty for the Province, First Nations, and industry, and shift all parties into a partnership around development and create support for project success. For the 2016/17 year, the following agreements were completed:

- Ktunaxa Nation (under comprehensive agreement) – Elk Valley Coal – Line Creek Mine
- Ktunaxa Nation (under comprehensive agreement) – Elk Valley Coal – Greenhills Mine
- Lheidli T'enneh First Nation – Giscome Mine

- Tsay Keh Dene First Nation – Kemess Mine
- Takla Lake First Nation – Kemess Mine
- Kwadacha Nation – Kemess Mine

### *Performance Measure 2: Clean Energy business fund agreements*

Performance Measure*	Actuals			Forecast		
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Target	Target
Number of completed clean energy business fund agreements	132	158	178	198	218	238

Data Source: Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation - Data as of May 23, 2017

**\*Amounts are cumulative each fiscal year**

<sup>1</sup>Agreement amount is total signed Capacity, Equity and Revenue Sharing Agreements since the implementation of the FNCEBF up to the end of FY 2014/15. For a more detailed breakdown of signed agreements under the FNCEBF, please refer to the tables below.

### **Discussion**

In fiscal 2016/17, 20 new clean energy business fund agreements were signed; eight new Revenue Sharing Agreements and 12 Capacity and Equity agreements. Due to a reduction in future call to power from BC Hydro, new clean energy projects determined as eligible for revenue sharing are anticipated to decrease, therefore, the annual target for newly signed agreements has decreased from 25 to 20, as indicated in the 2017-18 Service Plan.

#### Revenue Sharing Agreements

	Annually	Cumulative
FY 2016/17	8	50
FY 2015/16	12	42
FY 2014/15	7	30
FY 2013/14	22	23
FY 2012/13	1	1

#### Capacity and Equity Agreements

		Annually	Cumulative
2 intakes a year	FY 2016/17	12	128
	FY 2015/16	14	116
3 intakes a year	FY 2014/15	8	102
	FY 2013/14	31	94
	FY 2012/13	33	63
	FY 2011/12	30	30

ALL Agreements

	Annually	Cumulative
FY 2016/17	20	178
FY 2015/16	26	158
FY 2014/15	15	132
FY 2013/14	53	117
FY 2012/13	34	86
FY 2011/12	30	30

**Performance Measure 3: Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements**

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of existing Forest Consultation and Revenue sharing agreements	136	123	130	132	134	134

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

This is a cumulative total that includes FCRSAs that were signed in previous years and represents net new number of agreements (not renewals).

**Discussion**

Forest consultation and revenue sharing agreements (FCRSAs) share forestry revenue with First Nations based on forest activity in their traditional territories. In 2016/17, there were 23 agreement renewals and four new agreements. FCRSAs directly support the forest sector by streamlining consultation with First Nations through negotiated consultation protocols and commitments by First Nations that improve stability on the land base.

**Objective 1.2: Through early engagement, ensure First Nations and Aboriginal peoples have opportunities to participate and be involved with initiatives that affect their communities.**

**Strategies:**

- Negotiate and implement forms of reconciliation agreements with First Nations, which contribute to improved social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.
- Support First Nations' access to land and resource tenures.

**Performance Measure 4: Strategic Agreements**

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of new agreements that support strategic engagement with First Nations, including reconciliation agreements and strategic engagement agreements	7	10	7	10	7	7

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

## Discussion

Non-treaty agreements concluded in 2016/17 focused on: ensuring First Nations benefit from and have the ability to participate in development opportunities; identifying areas of common interest; and creating avenues to work with First Nations to achieve mutual goals through meaningful engagement processes. Specific elements of each agreement were negotiated to be flexible, depending on the parties' objectives, local needs, and relationship history. Strategic agreements come in many forms, depending on the priorities of the negotiating partners. Generally such agreements establish a government-to-government relationship and improve processes for making decisions. Reconciliation agreements are designed to increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish processes for decision making, and create social and economic opportunities for First Nations' communities. Other strategic agreements negotiated in 2016/17 provided a framework for more substantive reconciliation negotiations and engagement processes, and solidified economic partnerships.

In 2016/17, the following strategic agreements were completed:

- Lake Babine Reconciliation Framework Agreement
- shíshálh Nation Reconciliation Agreement
- Gitanyow Huwilp Recognition and Reconciliation Agreement
- Cheslatta Reconciliation and Settlement Framework Agreement
- Ahousaht Protocol
- McLeod Lake Government to Government Agreement
- Kitselas Reconciliation Agreement
- Carrier Sekani Tribal Council Interim Path Forward Agreement
- Tsartlip Interim Reconciliation Agreement
- Kemess Government to Government Agreement – Tse Keh Nay

### *Performance Measure 5: Liquefied natural gas benefit agreements.*

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of completed liquefied natural gas benefit agreements, which includes agreements for pipelines and facilities	51	64	65	75	75	80

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
This is a cumulative total that includes agreements signed in previous years.

## Discussion

In 2016/17, the ministry continued to employ a comprehensive approach to partner with First Nations that may be affected by natural gas development, pipelines or liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities to ensure they are provided with the ability to be a part of the opportunities associated with this sector. The approach included benefit sharing agreements, skills development training, and environmental stewardship projects. This performance measure tracks the cumulative number of pipeline and facilities benefits agreements. In 2016/17, the number of agreements grew to 75.

## ***Goal 2: Continue to reconcile 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 differences. There must be a willingness to learn from each other at all stages. Relationships built on mutual respect and recognition are the key to making reconciliation possible.

### **Objective 2.1: Respectfully reconcile provincial interests with First Nations' Aboriginal and treaty rights.**

#### **Strategies**

- Advance agreements among First Nations, the Province and local governments.
- 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 with partner ministries and agencies, First Nations and First Nations' leaders to understand, clarify, and develop solutions to issues involving Aboriginal rights and title.

#### ***Performance Measure 6: Treaties and related agreements***

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2014/15 Actual</b>	<b>2015/16 Actual</b>	<b>2016/17 Target</b>	<b>2016/17 Actual</b>	<b>2017/18 Target</b>	<b>2018/19 Target</b>
Number of completed new treaties, incremental treaty agreements and agreements in principle.	2	10	5	3	5	5

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

#### **Discussion**

In 2016/17, the ministry concluded three new treaty-related agreements. While this result did not meet predicted targets for 2016/17, significant progress was achieved ahead of schedule in 2015/16 when 10 new agreements were signed. Combining outcomes from both fiscals (2015/16 and 2016/17) results in 13 agreements signed, ahead of the combined 10 agreement target. The performance measure also does not reflect the progress made towards treaty and treaty-related agreements to support reconciliation at 34 active tables involving 68 First Nations in 2016/17. In addition to these active tables, the ministry also worked with the other principals to the B.C. Treaty Process (Canada and the First Nations Summit) to look for ways to expedite and improve the treaty process and appointed a new chief commissioner of the B.C. Treaty Commission.

Treaty-related agreements in 2016/17:

- Final Agreement (effective date) with Tla'amin Nation – April 5, 2016
- Agreement-in-Principle ratified by NSTQ – April 29, 2016
- K'ómoks Interim Treaty Agreement – Feb. 15, 2017

Treaties address the rights and responsibilities of the Province, First Nations, and Canada on matters such as land ownership, governance, taxation, financial benefits, and environmental management (including wildlife). Agreements-in-Principle (AIP) form the framework for treaties. AIPs contain all

the substantive elements to be finalized within the final treaty process. Incremental treaty agreements (ITA) are pre-treaty agreements that provide treaty benefits in advance of a final agreement to the First Nation to help build trust and momentum toward treaty. An ITA may allow a First Nation to develop an economic opportunity, provide employment for members or acquire culturally significant land.

**Objective 2.2: Establish respectful relationships with Aboriginal peoples as a model for all British Columbians**

**Strategies**

- 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.
- Continue to build effective relationships with industry and industry associations, such as providing advice, guidance and direction to industry in engaging with Aboriginal peoples.
- Engage with First Nations leaders to reach shared goals to improve First Nations’ communities and increase certainty on the land base.
- Work with other provinces, territories, the federal government and national Aboriginal organizations to initiate and co-ordinate efforts to address issues of mutual interest.
- Directly engage with business and industry on supporting First Nations’ participation in liquefied natural gas development.
- Work across ministries to support Aboriginal peoples’ access to programs and services associated with skills development and training related to liquefied natural gas.

**Objective 2.3: Work with Aboriginal peoples to enhance and build capacity in communities, governments and organizations.**

**Strategies**

- Support Métis governance and capacity development on a tripartite basis.
- Build from the outcomes and commitments established through existing accords and agreements to develop strategy.
- Work with Aboriginal youth organizations to develop opportunities to advance culturally relevant social innovations in business and entrepreneurship, education and other youth-driven priorities.

***Performance Measure 7: Capacity Building***

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of yearly capacity-building engagements with communities, youth and Aboriginal organizations.	14	15	12	12	n/a	n/a

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

## Discussion

This performance measure captures the work the ministry does to engage directly with Aboriginal youth, communities and organizations to build capacity through initiatives such as governance support, community engagement, short-term work exchanges, job shadowing, human resource development and building youth leadership. For example, in 2016/17, the ministry supported the following initiatives:

- Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective – a five-member consortium of Aboriginal organizations in B.C.;
- Gathering Our Voices youth conference;
- B.C. Aboriginal Youth Workers Network – a cross-province peer mentorship based network with nearly 300 members;
- The Aboriginal Skills Training Development Fund;
- The Aboriginal Youth Internship Program and the Building Public Service Capacity in Aboriginal Relations strategy.

No targets are forecast for 2017/18-2018/19 since this performance measure has been amended in the 2017/2018 Service Plan to capture the outcomes of capacity building efforts resulting from employment and training initiatives.

## **Objective 2.4: Work across government, with Aboriginal partners, and with the federal and local governments to improve socio-economic outcomes for Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia.**

### Strategies

- Continue to support innovative partnerships with provincial ministries, Aboriginal partners, and the federal and local governments to support employment, education and job skills training for British Columbia's urban/off-reserve Aboriginal population.
- Support the goals outlined in [B.C.'s Skills for Jobs Blueprint](#), such as adding 15,000 new Aboriginal workers during the next 10 years and realizing the potential of Aboriginal youth and under-employed Aboriginal peoples to realize opportunities in emerging sectors such as liquefied natural gas.
- Support British Columbia's Métis population as a unique demographic within the urban/off-reserve population to co-ordinate engagement and strategies for achieving better education and job training, healthier family life, and strengthened cultural linkages.
- Ensure negotiations and the implementation of agreements includes wider considerations of both social and economic benefits.

**Performance Measure 8: Collaborative engagements**

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of yearly collaborative engagements, agreements or initiatives that involve formal partnership/coordination with other provincial ministries, federal and/or municipal governments and/or Aboriginal partners.	10	10	10	10	10	10

**Data Source:** Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

**Discussion**

This performance measure captures the work within the context of the [Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan](#) (ORAAP). ORAAP’s effectiveness is measured by its ability to leverage key partnerships to establish a collaborative, coordinated and holistic approach to improving community-identified socio-economic priorities. In 2016/17, the ORAAP supported collaboration resulting in:

- The Union of British Columbia Municipalities working in partnership with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres to deliver Reconciliation Canada workshops;
- Public events with Métis Chartered Communities;
- Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council partnering with the Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society to develop an Urban Indigenous Workforce Development Strategy for Metro Vancouver with support from corporate partners;
- Elder participation in the New Westminster Aboriginal Family Court Project; and,
- B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres hosting the second BC Indigenous Funding Conference in September 2016 to help connect Aboriginal organizations and communities with potential funding/investment partners.

## Financial Report

### Financial Report Summary Table

	Estimated	Other Authorizations <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance <sup>3</sup>
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
<b>Negotiations and Regional Operations .....</b>	14,097	2,542	16,639	16,639	0
<b>Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives .....</b>	19,687	2,737	22,424	22,424	0
<b>Executive and Support Services .....</b>	5,427	313	5,740	5,740	0
<b>Treaty and Other Agreements Funding .....</b>	41,949	135,625	177,574	177,574	0
<b>First Citizens Fund .....</b>	1,650	140	1,790	1,790	0
<b>First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund .....</b>	2,962	1,228	4,190	4,190	0
<b>Sub-Total .....</b>	<b>85,772</b>	<b>142,585</b>	<b>228,357</b>	<b>228,357</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual<sup>2</sup> .....</b>	0	0	0	(4,324)	(4,324)
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,772</b>	<b>142,585</b>	<b>228,357</b>	<b>224,033</b>	<b>(4,324)</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>					
<b>Executive and Support Services .....</b>	1	0	1	0	(1)

<sup>1</sup> "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the "estimated amount" under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

<sup>2</sup> The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$4.324 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

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

## Appendix A – Contact Information and Hyperlinks

### Contact Information

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### Hyperlinks to Additional Information

BC Treaty Commission  
[www.bctreaty.net/index.php](http://www.bctreaty.net/index.php)

First Peoples' Cultural Council  
[www.fpcc.ca](http://www.fpcc.ca)

Métis Nation Relationship Accord II  
<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/aboriginal-people/new-relationship/m-tis-nation-relationship-accord>

New Relationship Trust  
[www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/](http://www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/)

A list of statutes that fall under the responsibility of the ministry can be found at:  
<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/amr/amr/1712999503>

## **Appendix B – List of Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions**

The ministry is also responsible for the First Peoples' Cultural Council, a provincial Crown Corporation formed by the Government of British Columbia in 1990 to administer the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Program. British Columbia is the only province in Canada that has established a Crown corporation that leads First Nations heritage, language, culture and arts initiatives.

## **Appendix C – Significant Independent or Semi-Independent Offices or Operating Segments (N/A)**

## Appendix D – Minister’s Mandate and Actions Summary

In the Premier’s July 2015 Mandate Letter, the Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation received direction on strategic priorities for the 2016/17 fiscal year. These priorities and the ministry’s resulting actions are summarized below:

Mandate Letter Direction	Ministry’s Action
1. Balance the ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	Met ministerial budget.
2. Continue to work with BC First Nations that are in the Treaty Process and who have an opportunity to secure a treaty with British Columbia and Canada to provide all parties with economic benefit and long lasting security.	The Province participated in 63 different treaty tables involving 114 First Nations. Of these, 34 tables involving 68 First Nations are actively negotiating or implementing a treaty and meeting on a regular basis. Progress in 2016/17 included the Final Agreement (effective date) with Tla’amin Nation on April 5, 2016; the Agreement-in-Principle ratified by NsTQ on April 29, 2016; and K’ómoks Interim Treaty Agreement, signed Feb. 15, 2017.
3. Continue to work with the Tsilhqot’in National Government to implement the Letter of Understanding signed with the Province of British Columbia.	In early 2016, the <a href="#">Nenqay Deni Accord</a> was signed, which is a five-year framework agreement that establishes a shared vision and structures to negotiate lasting reconciliation. Since signing, progress has been made on an economic development plan, community safety issues and in collaborative resource management planning and public engagement. The Province also renewed an agreement for shared decision-making for land and resource management in early 2017.
4. Work with the BC Treaty Commission principals to develop a more inclusive approach to the BC Treaty Process.	In June 2016, the principals to the BC Treaty process (B.C., Canada and the First Nations Summit) endorsed the tripartite report: “Multilateral Engagement Process to Improve and Expedite Treaty Negotiations in British Columbia” that sets out strategies to address some of the complex challenges that impede conclusion of treaty agreements. In February 2017, the principals agreed to appoint Celeste Haldane as the new BC Treaty Commission chief commissioner. With the appointment by Canada, the effective date of the chief commissioner appointment was April 12, 2017.
5. Work with BC First Nations that participate in and benefit from natural gas extraction, pipelines or LNG facilities to ensure they are provided with the ability to participate in this generational opportunity.	The Province completed an additional 11 pipeline and facilities benefits agreements for LNG-related infrastructure and activity in 2016/17 resulting in a cumulative total of 75 agreements. This includes milestone agreements with the Lax Kw’alaams, Metlakatla and Kitselas First Nations. Up to \$30 million has been committed for environmental stewardship with First Nations that will benefit all British Columbians. Environmental projects are being designed with First Nations in their traditional territories and regional

	<p>partnerships are being strengthened by working together. As well, over the past two years, more than 2,500 Aboriginal people have accessed training through programs supported by B.C.'s \$30 million Aboriginal Skills Training Development Fund, including 1,300 Aboriginal people in 2016/17.</p>
<p>6. Continue to implement our commitment to BC First Nations to expand the number of non-treaty agreements to further economic development opportunities that benefit both British Columbia and First Nations.</p>	<p>In 2016/17, the ministry negotiated 21 non-treaty agreements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sechelt First Nation (Shíshálh Nation) Government to Government Agreement</li> <li>• Sechelt First Nation (Shíshálh Nation) Reconciliation Agreement</li> <li>• Gitanyow Huwilp Recognition and Reconciliation Agreement</li> <li>• Cheslatta Reconciliation and Settlement Framework Agreement</li> <li>• Lake Babine 25 Year Foundation Agreement Letter of Understanding</li> <li>• Coastal First Nations Protocol Agreement</li> <li>• McLeod Lake Indian Band Tripartite Land Agreement</li> <li>• Halfway River Tripartite Land Agreement</li> <li>• Doig River Tripartite Land Agreement</li> <li>• Carrier Sekani Tribal Council Interim Pathways Agreement</li> <li>• Gitxsan Pipeline Benefit Agreement</li> <li>• Lax Kwa'laams Pipeline Benefits Agreements – 2 Agreements (PRGT &amp; WCGT)</li> <li>• Lax Kwa'laams First Nation LNG Benefits Agreement</li> <li>• Tsartlip Interim Reconciliation Agreement</li> <li>• Gitga'at LNG Benefits Agreement</li> <li>• Kitselas LNG Benefits Agreement</li> <li>• Ktunaxa Economic and Community Development Agreement</li> <li>• Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement</li> <li>• McLeod Lake Indian Band Government to Government Agreement</li> <li>• Lheidli T'enneh Giscome Economic and Community Development Agreement</li> </ul>
<p>7. Work with BC First Nations to ensure they continue to participate in and benefit from the Clean Energy Standing Offer by BC Hydro through the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund.</p>	<p>In 2016/17, the ministry signed 20 new clean energy business fund agreements: eight revenue sharing, nine capacity and three equity agreements. The ministry conducted two intakes for Capacity and Equity funding: January and May 2016. Approved Equity Agreements includes \$400,000 for the Kwadacha Nation to support a combined heat-and-power bioenergy system to offset diesel generation for a district energy system; \$250,000 for Xenigwet'in to begin an electrification project that will swap out their aging and inefficient gasoline and diesel</p>

	<p>generators for a more reliable hybrid system of solar power and propane; and \$128,120 to the Dease River Nation towards a demand side management project that will install programmable thermostats in all homes, upgrade to LED lights, water-saving showerheads, insulate hot water pipes and replace poorly functioning gas fired furnaces.</p>
<p>8. Work with BC Hydro to ensure First Nations have the ability to participate in economic development opportunities arising from the construction of the Site C dam.</p>	<p>The Province and BC Hydro continued to work in 2016/17 to ensure the Site C project provides lasting economic and social benefits for First Nations and northern communities, through direct job opportunities and Aboriginal businesses participating in site preparation work, as well as negotiating agreements with several First Nations that provide land protection, land transfers, financial payments and other economic benefits. Work is underway to implement those agreements. First Nations are benefiting from jobs and there has been significant involvement of Aboriginal businesses in Site C construction work. To date, approximately \$150 million in procurement opportunities has been committed to Aboriginal companies on Site C.</p>
<p>9. Work with the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training to increase the number of First Nations participating in apprenticeship and skills training programs to ensure economic prosperity includes First Nations members.</p>	<p>In 2016/17, the ministry negotiated 17 funding agreements to support First Nation participation in skills training and apprenticeship programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haisla, Level 1 Red Seal Construction Craft Worker Training</li> <li>• Gitanyow, Employment and Training Plan</li> <li>• Gitxsan, Skills Training Project</li> <li>• Lake District Aboriginal Training to Employment Society, Nis Ts'edilh - Southside - Phase 2</li> <li>• Yinka Dene Economic Development General Partner Inc., Nis Ts'edilh Northside - Phase 2</li> <li>• Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association (PGNAETA), Employment Readiness Program</li> <li>• PGNAETA, Carpentry Foundation Program</li> <li>• PGNAETA, North Central LNG Strategies Phase 2</li> <li>• PGNAETA, Skills Connect Phase 2</li> <li>• PGNAETA, Enhanced Weaving our Way</li> <li>• Tsay Keh Dene Nation, Workforce Development Initiative Phase 2</li> <li>• Doig River, Ready for Work: Pipeline Craftmanship &amp; Wildlife Monitoring Certificate</li> <li>• Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT), Powering Up For Opportunities</li> <li>• Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society, Prophet River Adult Education Program</li> <li>• NVIT, BRFN Bridging to Trades and College Readiness</li> <li>• NVIT, HRFN Employment Readiness and Engagement Initiative</li> <li>• Saulteau First Nations, Construction Craft Worker</li> </ul>

	Program
10. Work with the Ministry of Energy and Mines on the Mining Dialogue with First Nations that was committed following the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond collapse.	In 2016/17, the Province continued to work in partnership with First Nations to support local First Nation requirements for incident response and continuing a dialogue on mining. In regards to the Mount Polley Letter of Understanding, the parties concluded commitments during 2016/17, and recognized BC's commitment to ongoing engagement in long-term planning.
11. Host the annual meeting between First Nations leaders and the B.C. Government.	The third annual First Nations and Cabinet Leaders Gathering was held in Vancouver on Sept. 7 and 8, 2016.
12. Work with the Ministries of Justice, Health and Children and Family Development to continue to implement Violence Free BC.	The ministry and partners, including the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women (MACAW), continued to work together to address actions arising from the 2014 Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls (MOU) and address the disproportionate levels of all types of violence experienced by Aboriginal women and girls. This includes outcomes following the 2016 Provincial Gathering for Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Prince George. On Feb. 16, 2017, the Province proclaimed Moose Hide Campaign Day in BC to underline the importance of the campaign and the need to end violence toward Aboriginal women and children.