

**Ministry of  
Social Development  
and Poverty Reduction**

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**2019/20  
Annual Service Plan Report**

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For more information on the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction contact:

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9R2

1-866-866-0800

Or visit our website at

[www.gov.bc.ca/SDPR](http://www.gov.bc.ca/SDPR)

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## Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction *2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the *2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan* created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shane Simpson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Honourable Shane Simpson  
Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction  
June 25, 2020

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## Letter from the Minister

As the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, I am pleased to present the *Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report*, which summarizes our work and highlights achievements from the year ending March 31, 2020.

It has now been over one year since the release of TogetherBC, B.C.'s first poverty reduction strategy. The ministry led the development and implementation of cross-government investments and initiatives to make life more affordable and increase opportunities and inclusion for British Columbians facing poverty, including people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

A series of policy changes to income and disability assistance came into effect on July 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020 to continue to build a culture of empathy, understanding and respect for people. The changes included removing the requirement to apply for early Canada Pension Plan retirement benefits, removing the two-year independence requirement for young adults to receive income assistance, expanding access to the identification supplement, and removing the \$10,000 asset limit on a primary vehicle.

The WorkBC model introduced at the end of last fiscal year is part of our continued effort to put people first in our programs and policies. The new model, which includes an increase in the number of WorkBC centres in B.C. and a stronger online presence, offers additional flexibility to provide a much more customized and individualized approach to supporting clients in finding and sustaining the right employment. Under the previous model, supports were only provided until employment was obtained; now clients are supported for a full year after they secure a sustainable job to improve their chance of success. Reducing poverty is more than changes to government policies. It is the cultivation of partnerships between all levels of government, organizations and individuals to reduce poverty and homelessness. Over the last year, our established partnerships with the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), Victoria Foundation and Social Planning and Research Council of B.C. (SPARC BC) helped to support local poverty reduction, food security and homelessness prevention projects in communities throughout B.C.

Working across government and with our external partners and stakeholders, new initiatives were established: the BC Rent Bank, the Homelessness Community Action Grant program, support for local government poverty reduction plans and local food security projects.

In Fall 2019, the Ministry conducted a province-wide public consultation as the first step toward bringing in B.C.'s first-ever accessibility legislation. The consultation results will inform development of legislation to make B.C. more inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities.

We engaged with community social service providers, self advocates and families through the Social Services Sector Roundtable and the Re-imagining Community Inclusion Steering Committee working together to address long-standing challenges and towards social change. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we began to meet on a weekly basis, alongside the Deputy Provincial Health Officer, to provide support and share information as we navigate these challenging times together.

COVID-19 made for an unprecedented end to the fiscal year, and the Ministry's efforts were focused on ensuring that people were able to receive their income and disability assistance cheques in March with minimal health risks to staff or clients. Community Integration Specialists acted as crucial support workers in ensuring that people facing homelessness during COVID-19 were able to access health supports and housing options to help stop the spread of the virus.

The Ministry invested over \$3.6 billion in 2019-20 to support low-income British Columbians and people with disabilities, including funding of over \$1 billion for services to adults with development disabilities, delivered through Community Living BC.



Honourable Shane Simpson  
Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction  
June 25, 2020

## **Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report**

The Annual Service Plan Report (ASPR) is designed to meet the requirements of the [Budget Transparency and Accountability Act](#) (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets documented in the previous year's Service Plan.

## **Purpose of the Ministry**

The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction ([SDPR](#)) focuses on reducing poverty, creating opportunities, and increasing inclusion. The purpose of the ministry is to provide strategic leadership and quality services that empower the broad range of British Columbians in need to share in the Province's prosperity, to participate fully in their community, and to reach for their full potential.

SDPR is guided by four pieces of legislation: the [Employment and Assistance Act](#), the [Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act](#), the [Poverty Reduction Strategy Act](#), and the [Community Living Authority Act](#). The Minister is responsible for Community Living BC ([CLBC](#)) and also supports the Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction. The Ministry's key responsibilities include:

- Leading development and implementation of a cross-government, province-wide poverty-reduction strategy – [TogetherBC](#).
- Appointing and engaging with the Minister's Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee, which is mandated through legislation to advise government on policy developments related to poverty reduction and prevention.
- Leading development and implementation of a homelessness action plan to reduce the homeless population through permanent housing and services – in partnership with provincial ministries and agencies, local governments, first responders and service providers.
- Providing income, disability and supplemental assistance for people in need.
- Providing an integrated system of employment programs and services and supports to all British Columbians – [WorkBC Employment Services](#).
- Working with community, business and government partners to increase accessibility, employment, independence and inclusion for individuals with disabilities.
- Leading the development of accessibility legislation to promote greater inclusion and accessibility for persons with disabilities in BC.
- Supporting community living services for adults with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Supporting and engaging with community social service providers and self advocates through the Social Services Sector Roundtable and the Re-imagining Community Inclusion Steering Committee.

## **Strategic Direction**

The strategic direction set by Government in 2017 and expanded upon in the Minister's [Mandate Letter](#) shaped the [2019/20 Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction Service Plan](#) and the results reported in this ASPR.



## Operating Environment

With 421,000 British Columbians living in poverty according to the Market Basket Measure<sup>1</sup>, BC currently has the sixth highest poverty rate in the country.<sup>2</sup> This number includes 57,000 children in low-income families and about 45,000 seniors. These 2018 figures reflect the most current information that was available at the start of the 2019/20 service planning cycle.

The Ministry continued with service delivery improvements to provide consistent and responsive services and updated its public service commitment and service standards, ensuring clients are served as quickly and efficiently as possible, through all service channels. To support the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Office of Homelessness Coordination (OHC) works across government and with our external partners with a more coordinated approach in preventing and responding to homelessness.

The ministry offers employment services and supports for unemployed or precariously employed British Columbians to help them achieve sustainable employment. Serving 86,000 people annually, WorkBC Employment Services offer programs ranging from customized supports for people with disabilities to funding for communities and organizations to increase employment and work experience. Changes were made to WorkBC Employment Services this year introducing flexibility for WorkBC service providers to take a much more individualized approach to how they support each client in finding and sustaining the right employment.

The Ministry supports CLBC in its initiatives and partnerships to increase community inclusion, accessibility, employment opportunities and services for persons with developmental disabilities.

## Demographics and Economy

British Columbia's economy was strong in 2019 with real GDP growth of 2.8 per cent compared to the year before. Labour market conditions in B.C. remained tight, highlighted by the lowest unemployment rate in the country at 4.7 per cent, unchanged in rank and level from 2018. Employment increased by 2.6 per cent on the year. Average weekly wages grew by 2.5 per cent, registering a second consecutive year of positive real wage growth, with the annual consumer price index up 2.3 per cent. B.C. retail sales increased by 0.6 per cent in 2019, a more moderate pace compared to 2.0 per cent growth in 2018, as consumer spending was weighed down by more cautious overall consumer behaviour and declines in housing-related spending amid falling home sales year-over-year. Meanwhile, residential construction remained strong. Although the forestry sector faced significant challenges in 2019, LNG development provided some support for economic growth and job creation in the province. On the external front, global trade policy uncertainty, escalating trade tensions and commodity price declines weighed on B.C.'s export sector in 2019.

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<sup>1</sup> The Market Basket Measures (MBM) sets out the disposable income threshold required for a family of four to be able to purchase a basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living. This includes, for example, the costs of food, clothing, footwear, transportation, shelter and other basic expenses. The MBM is calculated for Vancouver, as well as four other community profiles in British Columbia: rural; population under 30,000; population from 30,000 – 99,999; and population from 100,000 to 499,999.

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada provincial and national [poverty statistics](#).

BC Employment and Assistance (BCEA) program caseloads are affected by demographic and economic factors. British Columbia experienced a strong labour market 2019, with an average unemployment rate of 4.7 percent, the lowest in Canada and one full percentage point below the national average. However, the significant job losses, especially in the service industry where workers are often low-wage earners, and reduction in hours caused by the COVID-19 pandemic will have a significant impact on the income assistance caseload.

The disability assistance caseload, made up of individuals who have a disability designation, has continued to grow as the result of longer life expectancies and an aging population. The disability assistance caseload will also be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, but to a much lesser extent than the income assistance caseload.

## **Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets**

### **Goal 1: Reduce Poverty in British Columbia**

#### **Objective 1.1: Release and implement the cross-government, province-wide poverty-reduction strategy**

[TogetherBC](#), British Columbia's first poverty reduction strategy, reflects BC's commitment to reduce poverty and make life more affordable for British Columbians. TogetherBC sets a path to reduce the overall poverty rate by 25% and the child poverty rate by 50% by 2024. It includes policy initiatives and investments designed to lift people up, break the cycle of poverty and build a better BC for everyone.

#### **Key Highlights**

- As part of TogetherBC, a range of policy improvements designed to make the income and disability assistance system more accessible and effective were implemented. These policy changes included modernizing the definition of spouse, removing the two-year financial independence rule, and eliminating the requirement to apply for early Canada Pension Plan (CPP) benefits.
- The Office of Homelessness Coordination (OHC) supports a shift to move toward a more co-ordinated, effective approach to addressing homelessness. Working across government and with our external partners and stakeholders, two new initiatives were established in 2019/20: the [BC Rent Bank](#) and the [Homelessness Community Action Grant](#) program.
- Progress was made toward meeting legislated poverty reduction targets through effective investments in affordable housing, child care, and increases to the minimum wage. Both the overall poverty rate and the child poverty rate declined in 2018 compared to 2017, from 10.3 percent to 8.9 percent overall and from 9.8 percent to 6.9 percent for child poverty.
- British Columbia has improved its ranking for total poverty, from having the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest poverty rate in Canada in 2017 to the 6<sup>th</sup> highest in 2018 and has also improved its

ranking for child poverty, from having the 5<sup>th</sup> highest child poverty rate in Canada in 2017 to 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in 2018.

## Discussion of Results

British Columbia's poverty reduction strategy is based on the 2016 Market Basket Measure (MBM), Canada's Official Poverty Line. The MBM reflects the cost of a 'basket' of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living in Canada. The measure includes five components: costs for food, clothing, transportation, shelter and other expenses. Data for the MBM is reported with a two-year lag. This means that data from 2016 was used as a baseline for progress when BC's *Poverty Reduction Strategy Act* was passed in 2018.

Since the release of TogetherBC, a series of changes to BC Employment and Assistance policies have been implemented to improve access to the supports and services needed by people experiencing social and economic barriers. Changes include: rate increases, expansion to earnings exemptions, modernization of the definition of spouse, and fairer supports for people without homes.

TogetherBC reflects government's commitment to taking action on homelessness through two important partnerships. First is The BC Rent Bank, a partnership with the Vancity Community Foundation to help households at risk of eviction to maintain their housing. The second is the Homelessness Community Action Grant program, through a partnership with the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC), assisting both local and provincially-focused organizations to explore better ways to respond to homelessness and foster more awareness and collaboration.

The OHC collaborated with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2019 to produce Encampment Response Guidelines for ministries, leading to better coordination and an "outreach-first" approach. The OHC partnered with BC Housing to support the second provincial homeless count, funding counts in 16 communities and collaborating with 12 other communities to create a provincial picture of homelessness. Thirteen counts were completed in March 2020 with 15 others postponed due to COVID-19.

Legislated targets and timelines to reduce the poverty rate were established in the *Poverty Reduction Strategy Act*. The target is to reduce the overall poverty rate by 25 percent (to 9 percent) and the child poverty rate by 50 percent (to 6 percent) by 2024 compared to 2016 using the Market Basket Measure, Canada's Official Poverty Line.

The *Poverty Reduction Strategy Act* also legislates that the government produce an annual report that is presented to the Legislature each year, no later than October, outlining the performance of the poverty reduction strategy. The first report is due by October 1, 2020.

The specific targets and timelines are ambitious. Achieving the targets will make a meaningful difference for people living in poverty in BC, lifting approximately 140,000 adults and 50,000 children out of poverty as a critical step in breaking the cycle of poverty in this province for generations to come.

## Goal 2: British Columbians in need have services, supports and opportunities that make life better

### Objective 2.1: Deliver reliable, responsive, consistent, accessible and secure income and disability assistance services

Delivering modern, consistent services focussed on reliability, responsiveness, and relationship building has been a key priority for the Ministry. Much progress has been made on expanding our community presence through increased outreach and an integration strategy with Service BC. The Ministry continues to expand and enhance online self-service options, resulting in increased accessibility of services for clients, regardless of their location in British Columbia.

#### Key Highlights

- Completed the Welcoming Project, started in December 2018, which aims to provide a consistent and personalized welcoming experience when clients access services on the phone, in person, or online.
- The Community Integration Strategy was adopted, with 90 new Community Integration Specialists (CIS) hired in 2019/20, responsible for directly engaging with the most vulnerable citizens of British Columbia. The CIS works in the community to establish eligibility for support and negotiates the provision of resources and services for clients with community partners and other agencies.
- Continued to expand services in conjunction with Service BC, completing the integration of offices in Masset and Mackenzie, and will continue to look for opportunities to offer services in collaboration with our partners across government.
- Increased the daily user rate for Mental Health and Substance Use facilities to provide people living in supportive recovery homes throughout British Columbia with more personalized services and supports.

Performance Measure(s)	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target <sup>2</sup>	2021/22 Target <sup>2</sup>
2.1 - Number of clients using My Self-Serve	40,000	68,488	65,000	87,109 <sup>1</sup>	82,500	86,500

Data Source: Service Delivery Division, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

<sup>1</sup> Current MySS Users as of March 31, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> The 2020/21 and 2021/22 targets were adjusted in the [2020/21 – 2022/23 Service Plan](#) to 82,500 and 86,500, respectively

#### Discussion of Results

In 2019/20, the Ministry modified this performance measure to the percentage of clients using My Self-Serve, rather than the number of users and the updated measure will be provided in the 2021/22 Service Plan . This is a more appropriate indicator of progress as it illustrates the proportion of all clients accessing income assistance services by the most flexible and efficient means available. The Ministry has seen a steady increase of clients leveraging this service since its implementation in fall of 2014. The Ministry’s response to COVID-19 included additional

efforts to encourage use of My Self-Serve to help promote physical distancing for the health and safety of clients and Ministry employees.

## Objective 2.2: WorkBC Employment Service clients achieve employment

### Key Highlights

- Moved to a performance-based model with contracted service providers and launched renewed [WorkBC Employment Services](#) with a streamlined, flexible and accessible range of services. Close to 86,000 clients obtained services through the expanded network of 102 WorkBC Centres or the [WorkBC website](#), with an emphasis on achieving long-term sustainable employment. This included personalized case management services to over 15,200 people with disabilities, over 9,100 indigenous clients and over 18,300 immigrants.
- Continued ongoing partnerships and collaboration with ministries, the federal government, and community organizations, including Indigenous employment service providers and other service providers. Held engagement sessions throughout the province to hear from over 100 organizations about their experiences and seek input for employment program improvements.
- Conducted targeted employer outreach and forged strategic alliances throughout the province to promote WorkBC Employment Services as a source of talent available to help employers meet their workforce needs. For example; responding to labour market impacts felt across British Columbia in the forestry sector by providing impacted communities with work experience opportunities, job fairs and labour market studies. Projects aimed to help communities in transition identify ways to diversify their local economy and support employers to grow, as well as provide opportunities for potential employees to gain valuable work experience.
- Supported 15,000 unemployed apprentices to complete classroom apprenticeship training and provided over \$4.5 million for assistive technology for individuals with disabilities to overcome work-related barriers and thrive in the workplace.
- Invested almost \$19.3 million across various Community Employer Partnership (CEP) funding streams, including over \$5.2 million in Job Creation Partnership (JCP) projects and almost \$10 million in Project Based Labour Market Training (PBLMT) projects.
- Through 106 new CEP agreements, approximately 600 job seekers benefited from work experience and employment training.

Performance Measure(s)	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
2.2 - Number of case-managed clients who achieve employment <sup>1</sup>	27,288	24,400	27,300	16,235	27,800	28,300

Data Source: Employment and Labour Market Services Division, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

<sup>1</sup> Employment is defined as when a client attains a full-time job (30 or more hours/week) or a part-time job (when part-time employment is desired; less than 30 hours/week), or self-employment (business is implemented and considered operational), after participating in case management services through WorkBC Employment Services.

## Discussion of Results

On April 1, 2019, the ministry launched a renewed WorkBC Employment Services to improve services that help clients achieve sustainable employment. Some of the improvements include more in-person WorkBC Centres, expanded client eligibility, and an additional \$9 million in direct supports like skills training and helping people access tools they need to pursue a career in the trades.

The number of clients employed was lower than anticipated for a variety of reasons. As economic and labour market conditions have been positive with low unemployment rates in BC, job seekers with less barriers to employment were able to find jobs without needing to access WorkBC services. A greater portion of WorkBC clients had more complex employment barriers, requiring more time and effort to support clients to reach their full potential through employment. In addition, system and policy changes to the program required service providers to adjust to a new way of working. As both service providers and clients adjust to the program changes, improved client outcomes are expected in the coming years.

The Ministry is preparing WorkBC Employment Services to play a critical role in supporting British Columbians experiencing COVID-19 related job losses and expects to see increased demand for employment services as recovery progresses.

### Goal 3: Individuals with disabilities live, work and participate in their communities on an equal basis with all British Columbians

#### Objective 3.1: Support a comprehensive and integrated system of supports and services for individuals with disabilities

##### Key Highlights

- Worked with the Presidents Group, a network of BC business leaders, to reduce barriers and increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- Continued to highlight accessibility achievements made by government, municipalities, local and provincial disability organizations, businesses and individuals to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.
- Engaged with stakeholders and the public to inform the development of new laws, standards and policies to better support people with disabilities to live with dignity and to meaningfully participate in their communities.

Performance Measure(s)	2017/18 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
3.1 - Total amount of earnings exemptions reported by Persons with Disabilities cases	115 million	135 million	137 million	149 million	145 million	153 million

Data Source: Research Branch, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

## **Discussion of Results**

In 2019/20, Persons with Disabilities continued to experience strong growth in earnings and exempted earnings, with over 25,000 Persons with Disabilities clients reporting income in at least one month in 2019/20. The growth in earnings is the result of many factors, including the Annualized Earnings Exemption which encourages clients to work more and keep more of their earnings when they are able to work, a strong economy and increases to the minimum wage. The strong economy helped Persons with Disabilities earn more income in 2019/20 and consequently exceeded the target for earned income exempted.

## **Financial Report**

### **Discussion of Results**

For 2019/20, the Ministry met the financial targets set out by the Ministry of Finance. The majority of the Ministry's budget supported Income Assistance, which totalled \$2.45 billion in 2019/20, in the following four categories:

- \$425 million for Temporary Assistance.
- \$1.47 billion for Disability Assistance.
- \$397 million for supplementary assistance which includes supplements for low income seniors, medical supplies and equipment, and dental and optical care.
- \$158 million for program management (including front-line staff).

Funding for Employment Programs is mostly provided by the federal government through the Labour Market Development Agreement. Federal contributions in 2019/20 totaled \$305 million while the Province spent \$19 million for employment programs and services.

Funding of over \$1 billion was provided for services to adults with developmental disabilities, delivered through the Ministry's service delivery crown agency, Community Living BC. To align youth transition services across government, the Ministry's Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities (STADD) program moved to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) effective April 1, 2019.

In line with government's goal of prudent fiscal management, expenditures for Executive and Support Services were limited to \$12.7 million. Of this, \$1.8 million in 2019/20 was spent towards the government supported Basic Income Pilot.



**Financial Summary**

	Estimated	Other Authorizations <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance <sup>2</sup>
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Income Assistance <sup>3</sup>	2,459,638	-2	2,459,636	2,453,753	-5,884
Employment <sup>4</sup>	29,169	-	29,169	19,173	-9,996
Community Living Services <sup>5</sup>	1,068,015	-3,265	1,064,750	1,082,974	18,224
Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal	1,828	-	1,828	1,641	-187
Executive and Support Services	12,947	-	12,947	12,683	-264
<b>Sub-total<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>3,571,597</b>	<b>-3,267</b>	<b>3,568,330</b>	<b>3,570,223</b>	<b>1,893</b>
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual	-	-	-	-1,096	-1,096
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,571,597</b>	<b>-3,267</b>	<b>3,568,330</b>	<b>3,569,127</b>	<b>-1,096</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>					
Executive and Support Services <sup>7</sup>	5,709	0,000	5,709	248	-5,461
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,709</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>5,709</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>-5,461</b>
<b>Capital Plan<sup>2</sup> (\$000)</b>					
By Core Business (and Purpose)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions (\$000)<sup>4</sup></b>					
By Core Business (and Purpose)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Receipts	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)
Disbursements	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> “Other Authorizations” refers to approved access to the Contingencies (All Ministries) and New Programs Vote in support of \$10 million in grant agreements for recruitment and retention initiatives in the social services sector, and \$4 million transfer of the STADD program to the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

<sup>2</sup> “Variance” represents “Actual” minus “Total Estimated”. If “Actual” is greater than “Total Estimated” the variance will be positive.

<sup>3</sup> In addition to the \$2.45 billion spent on Income Assistance, the Ministry was approved to access \$34 million from the Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account in 2019/20 for eligible expenditures related to housing and shelter programs under Income Assistance.

<sup>4</sup> Reflects WorkBC costs, net of recoveries from the federal government. Total spend in 2019/20 was \$324 million, which included \$19 million in provincial spending and \$305 million recovered from the federal government.

<sup>5</sup> Includes direct transfers to Community Living British Columbia (CLBC). Internal ministry savings and surplus funding in WorkBC fully offset CLBC funding requirements and reduced the need for “Other Authorizations”,

<sup>6</sup> Vote 41 overall underspent, see schedule CRF Supplements

<sup>7</sup> Capital expenditures represent replacement of vehicles. The capital budget to support WorkBC was re-profiled to future years.

## **Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals**

As of June 25, 2020, the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction is responsible and accountable for the following:

### [Community Living BC](#)

Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) is a crown agency that funds supports and services that meet the disability-related needs of two groups of eligible individuals and their families in British Columbia:

- Adults with a diagnosis of developmental disability. Criteria include age of onset, intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour.
- Adults who have a diagnosis of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder or autism spectrum disorder (also known as pervasive developmental disorder) and significant limitations in adaptive functioning.

### [Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal](#)

The Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal is an administrative tribunal established under the authority of the *Employment and Assistance Act* to provide clients with an efficient and transparent appeal process that is independent from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The Tribunal hears appeals from decisions made by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to refuse, reduce or discontinue certain benefits or supplements. The Tribunal also hears appeals from decisions made by the Ministry of Children and Family Development that refuse, reduce or discontinue a subsidy under the *Child Care Subsidy Act*.

### [Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee](#)

The Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee advises the Minister on matters relating to poverty reduction and prevention. This includes providing the Minister with comments to be included in the annual report released by government on actions taken to implement B.C.'s Poverty Reduction Strategy. The committee will also advise on future poverty reduction consultations to ensure consultations are informed by the experiences of persons living in poverty and uphold the commitment to Indigenous peoples.