

# Ministry of Finance

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## 2021/22 Annual Service Plan Report

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## Minister's Accountability Statement



The *Ministry of Finance 2021/22 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the *2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan* created in April 2021. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Robison'.

Honourable Selina Robison  
Minister of Finance  
July 28, 2022

## **Table of Contents**

Minister’s Accountability Statement .....	3
Letter from the Minister .....	5
Parliamentary Secretary’s Statement .....	6
Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report.....	8
Purpose of the Ministry.....	8
Strategic Direction .....	9
Operating Environment.....	9
Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets.....	11
Financial Report.....	19
Financial Summary .....	19
Appendix A: Government Communications and Public Engagement .....	22
Appendix B: Public Sector Employers’ Council Secretariat .....	24
Appendix C: BC Public Service Agency .....	26
Appendix D: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals.....	28

## Letter from the Minister

As British Columbia's Minister of Finance, I am pleased to present the *2021/22 Annual Service Plan Report*, a testament to the hard work and achievements of dedicated Ministry of Finance staff and the people of B.C., amid a succession of emerging challenges. This report reflects progress made on goals set in April 2021, during the ongoing health crises of the COVID-19 pandemic and poisoned drug supply, but before communities were devastated by wildfires, floods and mudslides – and before global economic shifts brought record inflationary pressures home to B.C. For more than two years, people have been facing extraordinary times. Through all of the challenges, we continue to put people first.

Government acted quickly to get people through the turmoil safely together and protect lives and livelihoods. While health crises, climate disasters and economic stresses have changed the landscape, our focus on investing in people has remained the same. We adapted to the changing needs of people, businesses and communities by ensuring targeted supports were available to those who needed them most and we continued to make record-level investments in schools, highways, hospitals and other capital projects that support good-paying jobs and a high-quality of life in our communities.

British Columbia has been at the forefront of Canada's economic recovery. Our plan for a strong economic future included more training opportunities for youth, more income and disability assistance and more historic investments in affordable housing. We invested in building thousands of new homes for British Columbians, while monitoring tax measures designed to improve our real estate market like the speculation and vacancy tax that turned income properties into homes for people in B.C.

We are building on progress by continuing to cut child-care costs, delivering a Child Opportunity Benefit for families, and strengthening health and mental health care services. At the same time, we have been able to make strong investments in fighting climate change and better protecting people and communities from its effects, while creating a sustainable plan for economic growth.

The choices we are making are moving B.C. towards an inclusive future that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Global forces continue to challenge us, but we will get through them by continuing to invest in people and remaining committed to continued fiscal transparency and accountability to the people of British Columbia.



Honourable Selina Robinson  
Minister of Finance  
July 28, 2022

## **Parliamentary Secretary's Statement**

An inclusive society, where all people are respected and included, free from discrimination and fear of violence, means a higher quality of life for everyone. However, the reality is too many people continue to face trauma and systemic barriers that others do not.

Concerns for those most at risk of facing violence, and for the most vulnerable people continues to be a primary focus for the work of B.C.'s Gender Equity Office and this is why our government is working to address gender-based violence.

As a result, we continue to collaborate with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, which has continued to make investments to assist community-based sexual assault response services throughout the province.

We have also recently completed focused consultations to help inform the development of a multi-year action plan to end gender-based violence.

As part of this plan, new, stable funding builds on \$20 million provided through the Ending Violence Association of BC to support emergency sexual assault services in B.C. communities. This funding, along with ongoing investments for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support, and investments in transition and safe homes, second stage housing and affordable housing spaces ensure people are getting the assistance they need.

In addition, plans are underway with a cross-section of representatives from private-sector business, public sector, labour unions, non-profit, equity-seeking organizations, legal advocacy groups, and Indigenous leadership and representatives to introduce pay transparency legislation.

Helping to close the existing gender pay gap in B.C. through pay transparency is an important measure to complement ongoing investments in skills training and workplace advancement, poverty reduction, and notably in child care, among other measures.

We have now surpassed 30,500 new funded child care spaces since the launch of ChildCareBC in 2018, giving parents greater ability to pursue work, school and other opportunities.

These examples underscore that government is taking action with a holistic approach to addressing the gender pay gap due to the complex nature of what causes the gap in the first place. Not all root causes can be solved by employer policies and actions alone.

The BC Public Service is also committed to equity in both hiring and advancement of employees. While continued progress is being made, the importance of ongoing recruitment and outreach to under-represented equity groups, training for hiring managers, and diversity and inclusion training for all employees remains a key priority.

It's also important to ensure diverse voices are heard in public sector organizations. As of March 31, 2022, the number of women on public sector board appointments is nearly 53%, which is a marked increase from previous years.

To ensure policies, programs and services are working for all British Columbians, Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) is applied as an analytical tool to assess the real or potential effects of our actions on diverse groups of people.

The work we have underway is making progress due to the many people, partners and service providers who work to help advance others and support people during difficult times. I'd also like to acknowledge the dedicated and experienced public service staff working across government to help advance government's priorities. It is to all these people I extend my gratitude for your dedication, and also your input and engagement on the work we have ahead.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grace Lore".

Grace Lore, MLA  
Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity  
July 28, 2022

## Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

The Annual Service Plan Report 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 Finance plays a central role in managing government's fiscal, financial and taxation policies. Key responsibilities of the ministry include:

- Developing forecasts of the provincial economy; developing and monitoring government's capital plan and three-year fiscal plan.
- Policy development with respect to provincial taxes.
- Policy development for financial services, capital markets, pension plans, mortgage broker sectors, real estate services and societies.
- Policy development with respect to anti-money laundering in real estate.
- Providing policy advice with respect to federal-provincial fiscal arrangements and federal-provincial income security programs, such as Employment Insurance and the Canada Pension Plan.
- Oversight for government's financial, procurement and administrative governance as well as banking, payment card, corporate accounting, insurance, risk, security and debt management services.
- Performance and financial management audits of ministry, agency and Crown corporation programs and functions to help improve efficiency and ensure governance, management and control systems are operating effectively.
- Identifying and collecting amounts owed to the government in relation to statutes the ministry directly administers, as well as statutes administered by other ministries.
- Coordinate cross-government action on gender equity issues, including addressing and responding to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), closing the gender pay gap and advancing the application and use of Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+).
- Providing guidance to ministries in the delivery of strategic government objectives on public infrastructure projects.
- Through the Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat (PSEC Secretariat), oversight of strategic coordination of bargaining and labour relations, total compensation planning and human resource management for the broader public sector, in addition to representing the Minister of Finance as Government Pension Plan Partner.
- Through the Crown Agencies Secretariat (CAS), ensuring specified Crowns are operating effectively, in the public interest and in support of government's strategic direction and fiscal, financial and other policy principles.
- Oversight of governance, corporate accountability and appointments to all Crown corporations, agencies, boards and commissions.



- Through Government Communications and Public Engagement (GCPE), ensuring British Columbians are informed about programs, policies and services that affect them and communicate essential features and changes in these areas through a wide variety of communication channels, direct engagement, and online services.
- Through the BC Public Service Agency (PSA), providing human resource leadership, expertise, services and programs that contribute to better business performance of ministries and government as a whole. These services include hiring, payroll, labour relations, occupational health and safety, professional development, succession management, and employee engagement.
- Operation of [Government House](#) and accountability for the [BC Securities Commission](#), the [BC Financial Services Authority](#), [BC Infrastructure Benefits](#), [Infrastructure BC](#), [BC Assessment Authority](#), [BC Lottery Corporation](#), [Liquor Distribution Branch](#) and [Real Estate Foundation of BC](#).

## Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2020, Minister Selina Robinson's 2020 [Mandate Letter](#), and government's coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic shaped the goals, objectives, performance measures and financial plan outlined in the 2021/22 Ministry of Finance [Service Plan](#) and the actual results reported on in this annual report.

## Operating Environment

Across government, ministries have been resilient in working towards government's commitments during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our government has identified five foundational principles to guide each ministry's work: putting people first, lasting and meaningful reconciliation, equity and anti-racism, a better future through fighting climate change, and a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, government's priority was making sure British Columbians were safe and had access to the critical services and supports they rely on. This will continue to be the priority until the pandemic is over. Government is also supporting ongoing response and recovery initiatives in communities impacted by climate related events in 2021. The fiscal stimulus proposed in Budget 2021 guided government's actions in its response to the pandemic and other climate-related emergencies.

B.C.'s tax system remains progressive and fair. The government continued to work with Treaty First Nations on property tax system on Treaty Lands, consistent with commitments under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. The ministry supported government's CleanBC plan by incentivising the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through a suite of tax measures. In 2021 the ministry also introduced new provincial sales tax collection and remittance obligations for online marketplace facilitators to make compliance easier for businesses that sell through these marketplaces.

British Columbia's economic recovery strengthened in 2021. B.C.'s real GDP growth of 6.2 per cent was the second highest among provinces (behind Prince Edward Island), following a

contraction of 3.4 per cent in 2020. Growth in B.C.'s real GDP was mostly driven by service-producing industries such as real estate, rental and leasing, healthcare and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical services. Goods-producing industries also experienced growth with gains in most sectors, led by mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction. While B.C.'s recovery broadened in 2021, it remained uneven as sectors such as accommodation and food services, and arts, entertainment and recreation have yet to fully recover to pre-pandemic levels. B.C.'s labour market strengthened in 2021, with employment growth of 6.6 per cent while wages and salaries increased by 11.3 per cent. Consumer spending on goods remained at elevated levels and nominal retail sales posted overall growth of 12.6 per cent. Meanwhile, inflation grew throughout the year and increased by 2.8 per cent on an annual basis, largely due to supply-chain disruptions, resilient demand for goods and services, and high energy prices. Residential construction activity reached a record high in 2021, with housing starts increasing by 25.6 per cent. At the same time, home sales also reached a record high in 2021 while the average home sale price saw double-digit increases. On the external front, B.C.'s international merchandise exports grew by 36.0 per cent, reflecting a combination of the recovery in global demand and higher commodity prices amid impacts from the B.C. floods and landslides in November 2021.

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

### **Goal 1: Sound and transparent management of government's finances**

The ministry is responsible for achieving government's goal of balancing the needs and priorities of British Columbians within a sustainable fiscal plan. This includes management of government's fiscal plan, oversight of financial monitoring and reporting, and administration of the province's tax system.

#### **Objective 1.1: Effective management of government's fiscal plan**

The government's ability to achieve a sustainable fiscal environment relies on the development and maintenance of a thoughtful, strategic and resilient fiscal plan. The ministry plays a critical role in overseeing the fiscal plan and works closely with provincial ministries and other public sector partners to ensure that government's annual and three-year revenue, operating and capital expenditure targets are met, and government priorities are achieved

#### **Key Highlights**

- Ministry of Finance prepared the annual Budget and Fiscal Plan, Estimates and quarterly reports in accordance with statutory requirements, incorporating an appropriate amount of prudence relative to the private sector outlook, and continued to provide enhanced reporting on pandemic-related spending during the 2021/22 fiscal year.
- Managed the province's relationship with rating agencies. British Columbia has the highest credit ratings among the other provinces and is currently the only province rated triple-A by Moody's.
- Successfully completed the province's \$9.9 billion long-term borrowing program for 2021/22 and ensured funding was available to meet significant essential service and capital requirements.
- Ensured effective cash management and debt issuance to minimize borrowing requirements and debt service costs, e.g., deployed \$2.6 billion of excess cash from the public sector to offset government cash requirements, thereby reducing debt and related debt service costs; borrowed \$3.5 billion from offshore capital markets swapping same into Canadian dollar liabilities and realized savings of \$7.7 million based on the comparable domestic cost of borrowing.
- Supported increased trade and investment with B.C. through investor tours in North America, Europe, and Asia (adapted as required with the use of virtual technologies due to the pandemic and included 4 investor conferences/forums with the Minister and 27 one-on-one investor meetings). Also used financing strategies that enhanced the province's trade profile in key global markets and the domestic and international investor demand for the province's debt securities.

Performance Measure(s)	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
1.1 Meet or exceed current year operating budget targets as set out in Government's fiscal plan. <sup>1</sup>	(\$5,468M)	(\$9,698M)	\$1,306M	(\$5,461M)	(\$4,182M)

Data source: Ministry of Finance

<sup>1</sup>This performance measure has been updated from the 'Balanced Budget' target to reflect that the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* has been amended to permit deficits for the 2021-2022 to 2024-2025 fiscal years. The targets used for this measure are revised annually based on the latest B.C. *Budget and Fiscal Plan*

## Discussion of Results

The province's fiscal plan, including the fiscal results for 2021/22, continued to be impacted by the pandemic and related recovery efforts. The fiscal guardrails used in Budget 2021 supported the province in maintaining fiscal discipline and guiding government's decision while continuing to deliver the services people rely on. The economic recovery outlined above was better than expected, resulting in significant improvement in all of the revenue sources during the fiscal year. The fiscal framework has supported government to meet the needs of British Columbians through the pandemic and climate-related emergencies, such as flooding and wildfires.

Since the beginning of COVID restrictions in Spring 2020 until the end of 2021/22, the Ministry had one-on-one meetings with key global investors and presented at investor webinars and conferences (virtual and in-person) which focused on global fund management and capital markets. The province was able to successfully leverage its investor relations program and strong credit rating in the offshore credit markets and borrowed CAD\$ 3.5 billion equivalent in 2021/22. This included the largest and most heavily subscribed B.C. bond ever, a US \$ 2.5 billion, 5-year Global Bond; a long-dated Euro bond; and two Australian dollar denominated bonds. The financings were swapped into CAD liabilities at levels below the province's comparable domestic borrowing costs; debt service cost savings totalled CAD\$ 7.7 million.

The Ministry of Finance successfully completed the province's \$9.9 billion long-term borrowing program for 2021/22 and ensured funding was available to meet significant essential service and capital requirements. Investor demand for domestic B.C. bonds supports issuance at a lower cost than the corresponding provincial benchmark bonds issued by the Province of Ontario in the 10-year and 30-year terms. This outperformance offered significant debt service cost savings for B.C. taxpayers in 2021/22: \$66.8 million over the term of 10 – and 30 – year financings.

The Ministry of Finance managed the Province's Central Deposit Program of \$2.6 billion which represents deposits from the public sector and are used to minimize borrowing by the province.

## Objective 1.2: Accountable, efficient and transparent financial and program management across government

### Key Highlights

- Prepared the annual Budget and Fiscal Plan and Estimates, incorporating strategic and thoughtful economic and fiscal measures to support the government in meeting the needs of British Columbians, including those affected by the climate-related emergencies in 2021/22.
- Supported the broader public sector to develop and implement increasingly inclusive and equitable programs - including actively investigating accurate measurement tools, such as the federally endorsed Gender Results Framework (GRF), to help better assess gender equity progression across government.
- Developed and implemented the Fraud Risk Management toolkit and the Fraud Awareness and Prevention eLearning (with more than 85% of core government employees having completed the course).
- Facilitated the modernization and implementation of Core Policy titled, Information Management Information Technology Management.
- Completed Internal Audit projects and reported on 2021/22 audit program
- Relied on the annual third-party audit to confirm that the province's use of payment cards (\$3.1 billion in 2021/22) complied with the international Payment Cards Industry standards.

Performance Measure(s)	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
1.2 Audit opinion provided by the Office of the Auditor General	Qualified but positive audit opinion from the Auditor General	<i>Public Accounts</i> in accordance with GAAP	Qualified but positive audit opinion from the Auditor General	<i>Public Accounts</i> in accordance with GAAP	<i>Public Accounts</i> in accordance with GAAP

Data source: Office of the Auditor General

### Discussion of Results

The [2021/22 Public Accounts](#) were released on August 30, 2022.

This measure is an indication of government's transparency in accounting for its finances. In preparing the Public Accounts, the ministry strives to provide an open, accurate and fair representation of the government's financial position in accordance with GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles). To validate this position, government seeks an independent audit opinion that offers an objective assessment of its financial reporting. This measure is considered substantially achieved if the Office of the Auditor General provides a qualified but positive opinion of the Public Accounts, which government received on July 28, 2022.

## Objective 1.3: Responsive, fair and effective revenue, tax and benefit administration

### Key Highlights

- Worked with citizens, clients, stakeholders and other jurisdictions to ensure tax, revenue and benefit programs were effectively administered, including compliance and enforcement activities. Of note in 2021/22, the ministry administered a number of COVID-19 programs including the BC Recovery Benefit Program, the BC Increased Employment Incentive, and the BC Provincial Sales Tax Rebate on Select Machinery and Equipment.
- Continued to implement new technology and process improvements to the tax and revenue administration system that improves the citizen experience, increases engagement with clients, enhances self-service options, and enables effective compliance and enforcement activities. In 2021/22, the ministry centralized the homeowner grant program, enabling all eligible homeowners to apply directly online or over the phone and helped to ensure the correct grant amount was provided to homeowners.

Performance Measure(s)	2018/19 Baseline	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
1.3a Percentage of on-time payments	97.75%	97.75%	Upward Trend	97.43%	Upward Trend	Upward Trend
1.3b Cost to collect on dollar of tax revenue	\$0.0059	\$0.0062	Downward Trend	\$0.0049	Downward Trend	Downward Trend
1.3c Accounts receivable as a percentage of total tax revenue	1.43%	4.15%	Downward Trend	2.82%	Downward Trend	Downward Trend

Data source: Revenue Division Information Systems

## Discussion of Results

### 1.3a: Percentage of on-time payments

In 2021/22, there was a slight increase in late and delinquent tax payments, resulting in a small decrease in the percentage of on-time payments.

### 1.3b: Cost to collect one dollar

In late 2021/22, the Ministry returned to more typical audit and debt collection activities after having put many of these activities on hold as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This shift increased incremental revenue. In addition, economic growth led to an increase in revenue from numerous taxes. Together, these revenue increases lead to a decrease in the cost to collect each dollar of tax revenue resulted.

### **1.3c: Accounts receivable as a percentage of tax revenue**

As discussed above, 2021/22 experienced economic growth-related revenue increases related to numerous taxes. Together with the impact of the return to more typical audit and debt collection activities, there was a decrease in the accounts receivables as a percentage of total tax revenue.

## **Goal 2: Strong, sustainable and innovative economy**

The ministry has a critical role in helping to make B.C.'s tax system fair for all citizens, bringing the housing market back into balance, and supporting a robust regulatory environment and making B.C.'s tax system fair for all citizens.

### **Objective 2.1: A modern, progressive and fair tax system and a robust regulatory environment**

A tax system that is perceived by British Columbians to be fair increases their confidence in government. Furthermore, the Province's ability to support a strong economy depends on a regulatory environment that is benchmarked nationally and internationally. Jurisdictions with competitive tax regimes and regulatory frameworks are successful in attracting and retaining personal and business investment.

### **Key Highlights**

- Supported government's CleanBC plan by incentivising the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through a suite of tax measures through the Budget Process. Tax measures included the Clean Buildings Tax Credit, introducing an equity tax credit for clean technology in the *Small Business Venture Capital Act*, an amendment to the *Motor Fuel Tax Act* for hydrogen fuel exemptions, and amendments to the *Provincial Sales Tax Act* that expanded exemptions for zero-emission vehicles and introduced an exemption for heat pumps.
- Introduced new provincial sales tax collection and remittance obligations for online marketplace facilitators to make compliance easier for businesses that sell through these marketplaces, including many small businesses.
- Continued to work with Treaty First Nations on property tax systems on Treaty Lands, consistent with government's commitments under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- Supported evidence-based policy development by expanding the ministry's capacity to leverage data holdings.

Performance Measure(s)	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
2.1a Provincial ranking of corporate income tax rates	4 <sup>th</sup> lowest	Remain in lowest four	4 <sup>th</sup> lowest	Remain in lowest four	Remain in lowest four
2.1b Provincial ranking of personal income tax rates for bottom bracket	2 <sup>nd</sup> lowest	Remain in lowest two	2 <sup>nd</sup> lowest	Remain in lowest two	Remain in lowest two
2.1c Provincial ranking of personal income tax rates for second lowest brackets	lowest	Remain lowest	lowest	Remain in lowest two	Remain in lowest two

Data source: Published legislation and budgets from all 10 provinces.

## Discussion of Results

BC maintained its tax rates ranking relative to other provinces. The corporate income tax measure reflects government’s commitment to maintaining a competitive tax environment that supports a strong and sustainable economy. The measures of the provincial ranking of personal income tax rates provide a comparison of B.C.’s personal income tax rates for the bottom two tax brackets, as of March 31 each year, with those of the other nine provinces. Comparisons are based on public information provided by each province including published tax rates and announcements of future rate changes.

## Objective 2.2: A fair and transparent housing market

### Key Highlights

- Continued work on the ministry’s commitments in Government’s Homes for BC: a 30-Point Plan for Housing by implementing tax collection, remittance and reporting obligations for marketplace facilitators such as Airbnb in *Budget 2022*.
- Launched the single regulator for the B.C.’s financial and real estate industry, concluding a multi-year project in partnership with the Real Estate Council of BC and the BC Financial Services Authority.
- Introduced legislation to implement a homebuyer protection period, which will strengthen consumer protection in B.C.’s real estate market.
- As a result of monitoring effects of the speculation and vacancy tax and the foreign buyers’ tax, made the speculation and vacancy tax exemption for strata accommodation properties permanent in *Budget 2022*.
- Reported out findings intended to address money laundering as part of a joint working group with the federal government and the B.C. financial services regulators.



Performance Measure(s)	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
2.2 Residential sales-to-new listing ratio <sup>1</sup>	65%	Ratio between 40% and 60%	77%	Ratio between 40% and 60%	Ratio between 40% and 60%

Data source: Haver Analytics/Canadian Real Estate Association.

<sup>1</sup>The data used for this measure are for the calendar year that ends in the stated fiscal year (e.g., 2021 calendar year data are used for 2021/22).

## Discussion of Results

This measure is the ratio between the number of housing unit sales and the number of new listings entering the market annually in the province on average. In general, a ratio between 40 per cent and 60 per cent indicates a balanced market in which prices are likely to grow at a moderate pace. The residential sales-to-new-listing ratio in B.C. was 77 per cent in 2021, outside the target range of 40 per cent to 60 per cent. Factors unique to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as resilient higher-wage employment, low interest rates, increased demand for larger dwellings, and low inventories fueled record high home sales volumes and higher prices last year. In 2021, home sales in B.C. reached a record high and increased by 32.9 per cent compared to 2020, while new listings only increased 11.0 per cent. The average sale price of residential properties in B.C. rose by 18.7 per cent compared to the previous year. The B.C. housing market and its stability is affected by a multitude of factors (including the impacts of the pandemic, low interest rates and strong migration), only some of which are influenced by Ministry policies.

## Objective 2.3: Effective oversight of public sector organizations

### Key Highlights

- Provided fiscal oversight to ministries and broader public sector organizations through policy, direction and coordination on financial management, forecasting and reporting requirements.
- Continued to ensure that GBA+ is effectively implemented through training as well as monitoring and reporting on practices, including supporting the collection and analysis of baseline data to help ministries identify and better understand challenges to GBA+ implementation.
- Delivered two successful province-wide Crown board chair meetings, hosted by the Minister of Finance to support public-interest governance and leadership practices in alignment with government priorities.
- Delivered online public sector governance training to over 860 board chairs and directors in 2021/22.
- Continued to proactively recruit qualified and talented board candidates from diverse communities and with lived experience throughout B.C.
- Continued to provide consistent and comprehensive financial and operational policy oversight of Crown Corporations under the responsibility of the Crown Agencies Secretariat.

Performance Measure(s)	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Target	2021/22 Actuals	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target
2.3 Total number of current staff who have taken GBA+ training <sup>1,2</sup>	10,390	11,200	11,902	11,700	12,000

Data source: Public Service Agency data.

<sup>1</sup>Data captures the cumulative number of employees who undertook GBA+ training and were employed with the BC Government as of March 2022. Data excludes duplicate counts of training (i.e., if staff took a course multiple times or if they took multiple types of GBA+ courses). Data does not include training undertaken by Crown Corporations.

<sup>2</sup>GBA+ training captured for this metric includes the Government of Canada’s online course and Government of B.C.’s in-person course for all staff (delivered virtually during COVID-19) and training to executive

## Discussion of Results

In January 2020, BC Stats launched a Usage Survey to better understand the challenges faced by the public service when using GBA+ and opportunities to better support future GBA+ training. A total of 1,633 employees across five ministries have taken the GBA+ Usage Survey, including 723 employees in 2021/22 (Ministry of Transportation and Ministry of Municipal Affairs). 84% of respondents reported they were aware of GBA+ and had taken the training; 73% believed GBA+ helps to achieve better results in their work.

### Objective 2.4: Provide support to all ministries in the delivery of community benefits on public infrastructure projects

#### Key Highlights

- Supported Government’s labour, child care, mass timber, and environmental objectives through the development and implementation of the Environmental, Social and Governance Framework for Capital (ESGFC), which will ensure public infrastructure spending supports more opportunities for apprenticeship training, increased opportunities for Indigenous peoples, women and other equity seeking groups, good paying jobs, consideration of environmentally beneficial practices, the creation of new child care spaces, and the use of mass timber in suitable projects.

## Discussion of Results

The Ministry of Finance continued to develop an ESG Framework for Capital to provide capital project owners with the policy guidance and tools to assess projects for the successful inclusion of key capital policy priorities. BC Infrastructure Benefits (BCIB), the Crown agency responsible for the implementation of the Community Benefits Agreement, is also available to support ministries seeking to achieve community benefits on their projects. Both the ESGFC and BCIB have public reporting mechanisms through which information on the delivery of community benefits on public infrastructure projects will be provided.

## Financial Report

### Financial Summary

	Estimated	Other Authorizations <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Treasury Board Staff	8,355		8,355	8,846	491
Office of the Comptroller General	21,799		21,799	20,993	(806)
Treasury	1		1	0	(1)
Revenue Division	210,418	59,911	270,329	278,455	8,126
Policy and Legislation	9,790	7,100	16,890	18,232	1,342
Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat	16,958	400	17,358	17,094	(264)
Crown Agencies Secretariat	2,589	3,084	5,673	5,673	0
Executive and Support Services	37,556		37,556	28,669	(8,887)
Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account	565,110	629,428	1,194,538	1,194,538	0
Insurance and Risk Management Special Account	4,630	15,745	20,375	20,375	0
Provincial Home Acquisition Wind Up Special Account	10		10	0	(10)
Financial Administration Act	0	161,868	161,868	161,868	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>877,216</b>	<b>877,536</b>	<b>1,754,752</b>	<b>1,754,743</b>	<b>(9)</b>
Insurance and Risk Management Special Account Prior Year Accrual <sup>2</sup>	0		0	0	0
Other Adjustments of Prior Year Accrual <sup>2</sup>	0		0	(322)	(322)
<b>Total</b>	<b>877,216</b>	<b>877,536</b>	<b>1,754,752</b>	<b>1,754,421</b>	<b>(332)</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (\$000)</b>					
Executive and Support Services <sup>3</sup>	181	0	181	75	(106)
<b>Total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>(106)</b>

Ministry of Finance

<b>Capital Plan (\$000)</b>					
<b>By Core Business (and Purpose)</b>	0		0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions (\$000)</b>					
<b>Reconstruction Loan Portfolio (Homeowner Protection Act Loan Program)</b>					
Receipts	(2,000)	0	(2,000)	(2,064)	(64)
Disbursements	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	(2,000)	0	(2,000)	(2,064)	(64)
<b>Student Aid BC Loan Program</b>					
Receipts	(115,000)		(115,000)	(134,517)	(19,517)
Disbursements	230,000		230,000	186,005	(43,995)
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	115,000	0	115,000	51,488	(63,512)
<b>International Fuel Tax Agreement Motor Fuel Tax Act</b>					
Receipts	(16,000)		(16,000)	(18,514)	(2,514)
Disbursements	5,000	1,791	6,791	6,791	0
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	(11,000)	1,791	(9,209)	(11,723)	(2,514)
<b>Land Tax Deferment Act</b>					
Receipts	(100,000)		(100,000)	(148,881)	(48,881)
Disbursements	300,000	21,725	321,725	321,725	0
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	200,000	21,725	221,725	172,844	(48,881)
<b>Improvement District Loans (Local Government Act)</b>					
Receipts	(2,000)		(2,000)	(1,366)	634
Disbursements	15,000		15,000	1,558	(13,442)
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	13,000	0	13,000	192	(12,808)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>(235,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(235,000)</b>	<b>(305,342)</b>	<b>(70,342)</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>23,516</b>	<b>573,516</b>	<b>516,079</b>	<b>(57,437)</b>
<b>Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>315,000</b>	<b>23,516</b>	<b>338,516</b>	<b>210,737</b>	<b>(127,779)</b>

<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. In 2021/22, other authorizations included:

- Statutory appropriation under section 26(2) of the *Financial Administration Act* for costs related to funding provided to reflect ministry allocation for ratified collective agreements, as of March 31, 2022, under the Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate and for Temporary Pandemic Pay

- Statutory appropriation under section 9.7(3) of the Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act to support the Permanent Housing Plan, residential care room and board subsidies, urgent shelter and encampment response, temporary foreign worker accommodation program, and hotel renovation costs.
- Combined statutory appropriations under part 15 of the *Income Tax Act* for the British Columbia Increased Employment Incentive program and under part 2.1 of the *Employer Health Tax Act* for the British Columbia Recovery Benefit program.
- Approved funding from the Contingencies (All Ministries) and New Programs Vote supported the Property Tax Deferral concessionary grant expense, the BC Financial Service Authority's Core Regulatory Suite Project, the repatriation and transition of Revenue Services, Crown Agencies Secretariat Resourcing, for IT Data Storage Costs, and the development of a sectoral human resources and compensation framework for the community social services sector.

<sup>2</sup> The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.322 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

<sup>3</sup> Capital budget is used to purchase assets on a needs basis.

## **Appendix A: Government Communications and Public Engagement**

### **Purpose of the Organization**

Government Communications and Public Engagement (GCPE) provides centralized communications management and services for government. The mandate of GCPE is to ensure British Columbians are informed about programs, policies and services that affect them – and to communicate essential features and changes in these areas through traditional communication practices, direct engagement and online services.

### **Strategic Direction**

GCPE plays a critical role in helping government achieve its key commitments: make life more affordable; deliver the services people count on; and build a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone by informing British Columbians about government actions to achieve these priorities and about the programs and services available. GCPE also supports direct engagement with citizens through ongoing dialogue concerning the development and design of key initiatives (e.g., supporting communications and public engagement activities for the implementation of COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery).

In today's fast-paced and media-rich world, it is important to ensure that government communicates effectively so people know what services are available to them, what changes are made to those services, and how to access them. GCPE is responsible for helping to shape the way the B.C. government talks to citizens through various channels, from traditional advertising and earned media techniques, to innovative digital communications, and ensuring that peoples' voices are heard when important decisions are being made through direct engagement on a variety of issues.

GCPE engages and informs British Columbians on government initiatives to connect directly to the information and services they need. This is achieved by expanding government's reach in communicating via direct (social media) and filtered (media) communications, and by helping them access the public services they require.

### **Highlights**

- Continued to support the Minister of Health and the Provincial Health Officer to provide the critical information needed about the COVID-19 pandemic, including vaccination for children aged 5-11, booster campaign and the Omicron variant.
- Quickly pivoted following the devastation caused by the November 2021 atmospheric river event to clearly and effectively communicate public safety information, the fuel cap, infrastructure impacts, funding supports and recovery efforts to British Columbians.
- Began the expansion of our multi-language services beyond COVID-19 communications to help reach more people in British Columbia about the work government is doing and how to access services.

- Supported ongoing infrastructure announcements, including new hospitals, highway and road improvements and rebuilding after the 2021 floods, and building, expanding and seismically upgrading schools,
- Launched B.C.’s economic plan, StrongerBC, which moves the province forward by tackling the challenges of today while growing an economy that works for more people and families.
- Provided communications support for all other major events.

## Financial Summary

	Estimated	Other Authorizations <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Government Communications and Public Engagement	28,338	16,733	45,071	45,071	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,338</b>	<b>16,733</b>	<b>45,071</b>	<b>45,071</b>	<b>0</b>

<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.

## Appendix B: Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat

### Purpose of the Organization

The Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat (PSEC Secretariat) carries out the mandate of the Public Sector Employers' Council, which is responsible for strategic coordination of labour relations, total compensation planning, and human resource management for the broader provincial public sector. This includes providing support to the Minister of Finance, who is chair of the Public Sector Employers' Council, in directing employers to create compensation plans for excluded and executive employees.

The PSEC Secretariat represents government in its role as a partner in four B.C. jointly trusted public sector pension plans<sup>1</sup>, working with other partners to ensure plan sustainability, monitor risk exposure and provide policy advice to both government and public sector employers. The Secretariat also supports the Minister in her capacity as Steward of the Canada Pension Plan, working with representatives with the provinces and territories to ensure the long term sustainability of the Canada Pension Plan.

The PSEC Secretariat's authority in these areas is contained in the [Public Sector Employers Act](#), [Public Sector Pension Plans Act](#), the joint trust agreements, the Federal [Income Tax Act](#), and as delegated under the *B.C. Government Pension Plan Partner Governance Framework* and *B.C. Steward: Canada Pension Plan and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board Stewardship Framework*.

### Key Highlights

- Convened the Public Sector Employers' Council on September 21, 2021, to engage with employers' associations and unions in advance of the 2022 round of negotiations.
- Coordinated the federal government's direction to provincial public sector employers to recognize the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021, and 2022, while the consultation process of determining a final future date for a provincial equivalent to the Truth and Reconciliation Day was continued by Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.
- Completed and distributed the 2021 Compensation Base Survey and the April 2022 Compensation Base Forecast.
  - Provided advice and guidance on the development of a provincial public sector bargaining mandate for 2022 negotiations.
  - Provided coordination to provincial public sector employers on government's COVID-19 response and guidance to ensure understanding and consistency (where possible) on proof of vaccination policies and changes to the *Employment Standards Act*.
  - Completed the 2021 Executive Compensation Disclosure process.
  - Completed the implementation of a planned redesign across all four jointly trusted public sector pension plans, which improved equity in the benefits and contributions for

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<sup>1</sup> The four pension plans contained in the *Public Sector Pension Plans Act* are: College Pension Plan, Municipal Pension Plan, Public Service Pension Plan, and Teachers' Pension Plan. For more information see [PensionsBC.ca](https://pensionsbc.ca)



members and employers, improved long-term sustainability of the plans, and better aligned benefits with how members use them.

- Completed the triennial review of the Canada Pension Plan, resulting in assurance of the long-term sustainability of the plan and no recommendations for changes in benefits or contributions.

## Appendix C: BC Public Service Agency

### Purpose of the Organization

The BC Public Service Agency (PSA) provides human resource leadership, expertise, services, and programs that contribute to better business performance of ministries and government as a whole.

### Strategic Direction

The BC Public Service is one of the largest workforces in the province, serving all communities across British Columbia. From frontline workers to accountants and architects, researchers and analysts, information technology professionals, social workers and others, there is virtually no area of expertise unrepresented. BC Public Service employees provide a wide range of services to British Columbians supporting the provision of health care, public safety, education, and environmental management to name a few.

The PSA supports that work by providing human resources services such as hiring, payroll, labour relations, occupational health and safety, professional development, succession management and employee engagement. In doing so, it helps ensure the BC Public Service continues to have the right talent it needs to do the work of government today and in the future.

In addition to its core services and functions, priorities for the PSA in the coming year include:

- A new strategy to ensure the BC Public Service is an inclusive organization reflective of the people of British Columbia where all employees are supported to reach their full potential.
- Supporting employees with the policies, programs and services needed to ensure their health, safety, and performance during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Maintaining a strong focus on the ethical foundation of the professional public service.

### Links to Key Programs and Initiatives

[Public Service Agency Programs & Strategies](#)

[Careers in the BC Public Service](#)

[Indigenous Youth Internship Program](#)

[Diversity, Inclusion & Respect](#)

[Where Ideas Work 2020 Corporate Plan for the BC Public Service](#)

### Key Highlights

- Continued to support the safety and health of BC Public Service employees through the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the implementation of the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy with more than 98% of employees being fully vaccinated.
- Building on lessons learned during the pandemic, implemented an updated corporate framework for flexible work options that balances employee preference, the BC Public

Service’s obligations as an employer and the operational needs of government. More than 51% of employees now have approved telework agreements in place.

- Continued implementation of Where We All Belong, the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for the BC Public Service and supporting resources to ensure the public service is inclusive and reflective of the population it serves.
- Delivered further ethics-related training and resources, resulting in an increased awareness among employees of the ethical expectations of them in their work.

## Financial Summary

	Estimated	Other Authorizations <sup>1</sup>	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Public Service Agency Operations	59,507	549	60,056	60,056	0
Benefits	1	12,289	12,290	12,290	0
Long Term Disability Special Account	69,150	71,316	140,466	140,466	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>128,658</b>	<b>84,154</b>	<b>212,812</b>	<b>212,812</b>	<b>0</b>
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	(199)	199
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,658</b>	<b>84,154</b>	<b>212,812</b>	<b>212,613</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>Major Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>					
Public Service Agency Operations	10	0	10	9	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

<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.

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

As of July 31, 2022, the Minister of Finance is responsible and accountable for the following:

### **Crown Corporations**

- BC Assessment Authority: [www.bcassessment.ca](http://www.bcassessment.ca)
- BC Financial Services Authority: [www.bcfsa.ca](http://www.bcfsa.ca)
- BC Infrastructure Benefits: [www.bcib.ca](http://www.bcib.ca)
- BC Lottery Corporation: [www.bclc.com](http://www.bclc.com)
- BC Securities Commission: [www.bcsc.bc.ca](http://www.bcsc.bc.ca)
- Infrastructure BC: [www.infrastructurebc.com](http://www.infrastructurebc.com)
- Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia: [www.refbc.com](http://www.refbc.com)

### **Other Key Organizations**

- British Columbia Investment Management Corporation (BCI): [www.bci.ca](http://www.bci.ca)
- Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation: [www.cudicbc.ca](http://www.cudicbc.ca)
- Insurance Council of British Columbia: [www.insurancecouncilofbc.com](http://www.insurancecouncilofbc.com)
- Liquor Distribution Branch: [www.belldb.com](http://www.belldb.com)