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NEWS RELEASE

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Finance Committee announces public consultation plans for Budget 2014

VICTORIA – The all-party Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services announced today plans for conducting provincewide consultations on Budget 2014.

The consultations will include public hearings in communities throughout the province, along with a call for written submissions and an online survey. The consultation period opens with the release of the *Budget 2014 Consultation Paper* by the Ministry of Finance on Sept. 10.

"The committee would like to hear British Columbians' priorities and financial concerns for next year's provincial budget," said committee chair Dan Ashton. "We encourage any interested individuals and organizations to attend a public hearing or to make a submission," added deputy chair Mike Farnworth.

This year's consultations will include public hearings in 17 B.C. communities, and video-conference sessions covering an additional four locations:

Vancouver	Sept. 20	Nanaimo	Oct. 2
Surrey	Sept. 23	Courtenay	
Port Coquitlam	Sept. 24	(video-conference session)	Oct. 3
Chilliwack	Sept. 24	Dawson Creek	Oct. 7
Kamloops	Sept. 25	Prince George	Oct. 8
Merritt	Sept. 25	Williams Lake	Oct. 8
Victoria	Sept. 26	Smithers	Oct. 9
Cranbrook	Sept. 30	Prince Rupert	Oct. 9
Trail	Oct. 1	Fort St. John, Quesnel,	
Penticton	Oct. 1	and Terrace	
Kelowna	Oct. 2	(video-conference sessions)	Oct. 16

Registration for the public hearings opens on **Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013, at 11 a.m.** To register, please contact the Parliamentary Committees Office by phone, 1 877 428-8337, or by email: <u>FinanceCommittee@leg.bc.ca</u>

For more information on the work of the committee, including a list of committee members, please visit the committee's website at: www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance

The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013. The committee will release its report by Friday, Nov. 15, 2013.

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