



NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 14, 2013

Finance Committee releases report on Budget 2014 consultations

VICTORIA – The Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services released its report today on the public consultations for Budget 2014.

The report summarizes the input received during the five-week consultation period. During that time, the committee held public hearings in 17 communities and issued a call for written submissions and responses to an online survey. A total of 674 submissions were received from individuals and organizations.

“The report makes 73 recommendations based on what we heard from British Columbians,” said committee chair Dan Ashton. “The committee worked collaboratively throughout this process and unanimously agreed to all of the recommendations.”

“We thank everyone who presented their ideas to us,” added deputy chair Mike Farnworth. “The committee urges government to consider this input as part of the next provincial budget.”

The committee’s recommendations include support for balanced budgets, taxation improvements, and measures to enhance natural resource and economic development. Other recommendations seek to strengthen K-12 and post-secondary education, health care, and community and social services. Proposals are also made for environmental protection and to ensure equitable access to justice.

The committee’s report, along with further information on the budget consultation process, is available at: <http://www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance/>

The members of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services are:

Dan Ashton, MLA (Penticton), chair;
Mike Farnworth, MLA (Port Coquitlam), deputy chair;
Mable Elmore, MLA (Vancouver-Kensington);
Eric Foster, MLA (Vernon-Monashee);
Scott Hamilton, MLA (Delta North);
Gary Holman, MLA (Saanich North and the Islands);
Marvin Hunt, MLA (Surrey-Panorama);
Lana Popham, MLA (Saanich South);
Jackie Tegart, MLA (Fraser-Nicola);
John Yap, MLA (Richmond-Steveston).

For further information:

Susan Sourial
Committee Clerk
Room 224, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4

Telephone: 250 356-2933 (collect)
Toll-free: 1 877 428-8337
Fax: 250 356-8172
E-mail: FinanceCommittee@leg.bc.ca