

MEDIA RELEASE

August 7, 2019

Finance Committee releases report on Budget 2020 Consultation

VICTORIA – The Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services released its unanimous report on the Budget 2020 Consultation today. The report includes 106 recommendations for the next provincial budget and provides a summary of the concerns and priorities put forward by British Columbians.

"The committee is grateful to everyone who took the time to share their views and bring attention to the challenges and opportunities facing the province," said committee chair Bob D'Eith. "Several issues emerged as key areas for action, including providing comprehensive supports to youth formerly in care, and advancing water sustainability."

"Committee members also recognize the critical challenges facing the forestry sector and the need to support affected workers and communities," added deputy chair Dan Ashton. "Ongoing concerns related to resources for addressing invasive species, fish and wildlife conservation and management, and climate change and natural disasters are highlighted as well."

The budget consultation is typically held every fall. This year, the consultation ran from June 3, 2019 to June 28, 2019 to enable the Committee to deliver its report earlier in the budget process.

During the consultation period, the committee heard 276 presentations at 15 public hearings in communities across British Columbia, and received 496 written submissions and 452 responses to an online survey which was based on questions in the Budget 2020 Consultation Paper released by the Minister of Finance on June 3, 2019.

The report is available at: www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance

The members of the committee are: Bob D'Eith, MLA Maple Ridge-Mission (chair); Dan Ashton, MLA Penticton (deputy chair); Doug Clovechok, MLA Columbia River-Revelstoke; Rich Coleman, MLA Langley East; Mitzi Dean, MLA Esquimalt-Metchosin; Ronna-Rae Leonard, MLA Courtenay-Comox; Nicholas Simons, MLA Powell River-Sunshine Coast

For further information: Susan Sourial Clerk Assistant, Committees and Interparliamentary Relations Room 224 Parliament Buildings Victoria BC V8V 1X4 T 250-356-2933 Toll Free in BC 1-877-428-8337 Fax: 250-356-8172 FinanceCommittee@leg.bc.ca