

JAN 21 2015



Mr. Greg Deck
Chair
Columbia Basin Trust
300, 445 – 13 Avenue
Castlegar, BC V1N 1G1

Dear Mr. Deck:

British Columbians have come to expect the high quality products and services delivered by their provincial public sector organizations. The Province is well served by our public sector organizations. It is the responsibility of the boards and senior management teams of these organizations to lead and manage in the best interests of the Province and the taxpayer by strengthening accountability and promoting cost control.

One of Government's core values is respect for the taxpayer's dollar. It is critical that public sector organizations operate as efficiently as possible, in order to ensure British Columbians are provided with services at the lowest cost possible. This requires constant focus on maintaining a cost-conscious and principled culture through the efficient delivery of services that stand the test of public scrutiny and help develop a prosperous economy in an environmentally sustainable manner. The foundation of this work is the Government's commitment to controlling spending and balancing the budget.

We have agreed that Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) will undertake the following specific strategic priority actions for 2015/16:

1. Continue a Basin-wide engagement process to fully understand local and regional priorities and determine how best CBT can work collaboratively with communities to address these priorities in the coming years. This is an ongoing engagement anticipated to conclude in the winter of 2015.
2. Advance discussions with local government, First Nations, and provincial partners (within the existing Board appointment process legislated in the *Columbia Basin Trust Act*) to develop an aligned Board appointment process that ensures the Board of CBT has the requisite balance of skills to lead the organization. An effort will be made to arrive at an understanding by the fall of 2015.

These specific strategic priority actions and the Taxpayer Accountability Principles actions are to be included and integrated in your 2015/16-2017/18 Service Plan.

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As part of the commitment to fiscal responsibility and to ensure the best possible use of Government resources, provincial public sector organizations now operate under the Taxpayer Accountability Principles (attached) announced by Premier Christy Clark in June 2014. Through the implementation of Taxpayer Accountability Principles, leadership teams in public sector organizations are leading a change to a cost-conscious public sector that strengthens cost management capabilities and fosters a principled culture of efficiency and accountability at all levels. This leadership includes implementing your organization's Code of Conduct which contains conflict of interest provisions and post-employment restrictions.

CBT is expected to fully adopt the Taxpayer Accountability Principles – cost-consciousness (efficiency), accountability, appropriate compensation, service, respect and integrity. The actions, as detailed in the 2014 Transition Letter, are to be completely implemented in 2015/16. For further information on the Taxpayer Accountability Principles, please see <http://gov.bc.ca/crownaccountabilities>.

To support the implementation of the Taxpayer Accountability Principles, please ensure all board members sign this 2015/16 mandate letter and the signed letter is posted publicly on your organization's website.

Government is committed to further strengthening accountability, improving the management of public funds and revitalizing the relationship between Government and public sector organizations. This strong focus on improved two-way communication is to support and ensure a complete understanding of Government directions, expectations, accountabilities and alignment with strategic priorities. As such, it is important that each of us advise the other in a timely manner of any issues that may materially affect the business of CBT and/or the interests of Government, including information on any risks to achieving financial forecasts and performance targets.

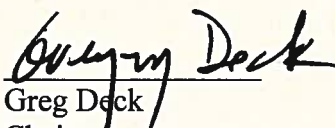
It is acknowledged this Mandate Letter describes accountability principles for which CBT is expected to adhere; however, it is further acknowledged nothing in this letter takes precedent over legal or fiduciary obligations arising from the *Columbia Basin Trust Act* or any other legislation as applicable to CBT.

I look forward to our regular quarterly meetings that focus on strategic priorities, performance against the Taxpayer Accountability Principles, results and working together to protect the public interest at all times.

Sincerely,

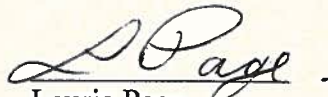


Bill Bennett
Minister


Greg Deck

Chair

Columbia Basin Trust


Laurie Page

Vice-Chair

Columbia Basin Trust


Vickie Thomas

Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


Wendy Booth

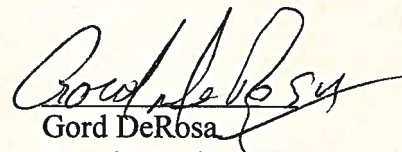
Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


Kim Deane

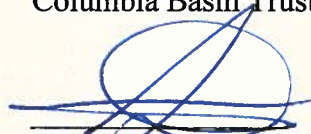
Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


Gord DeRosa

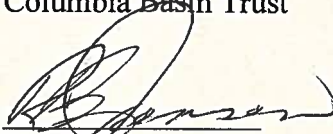
Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


John Dooley

Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


Rick Jensen

Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust


Am Naqvi

Board Member

Columbia Basin Trust

pc: Honourable Christy Clark
Premier

Mr. John Dyble
Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary

Mr. Peter Milburn
Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board
Ministry of Finance

Mr. Dave Nikolejsin
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Energy and Mines

Ms. Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland
Associate Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Mr. Greg Deck
Chair
Columbia Basin Trust

Ms. Laurie Page
Vice Chair
Columbia Basin Trust

Ms. Vickie Thomas
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Ms. Wendy Booth
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Ms. Kim Deane
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Mr. Gord DeRosa
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Mr. John Dooley
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Mr. Rick Jensen
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Mr. Am Naqvi
Board Member
Columbia Basin Trust

Mr. Neil Muth
President and Chief Executive Officer
Columbia Basin Trust

B.C. Taxpayer Accountability Principles

Further information available at: <http://gov.bc.ca/crownaccountabilities>

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| 1 Cost Consciousness (Efficiency) | Strengthen cost management capabilities and foster a culture of cost-consciousness at all levels of public sector organizations. Provide public services and programs as efficiently and effectively as possible to “bend the cost curve” and support sustainable public policies and programs as a lasting legacy for generations to come. |
| 2 Accountability | Transparently manage responsibilities according to a set of common public sector principles in the best interest of the citizens of the province. By enhancing organizational efficiency and effectiveness in the planning, reporting and decision making, public sector organizations will ensure actions are aligned with government’s strategic mandate. |
| 3 Appropriate Compensation | Comply with a rigorous, standardized approach to performance management and employee compensation, which reflects appropriate compensation for work across the public sector that is consistent with government’s taxpayer accountability principles and respectful of the taxpayer. |
| 4 Service | Maintain a clear focus on positive outcomes for citizens of British Columbia by delivering cost-efficient, effective, value-for-money public services and programs. |
| 5 Respect | Engage in equitable, compassionate, respectful and effective communications that ensure all parties are properly informed or consulted on actions, decisions and public communications in a timely manner. Proactively collaborate in a spirit of partnership that respects the use of taxpayers’ monies. |
| 6 Integrity | Make decisions and take actions that are transparent, ethical and free from conflict of interest. Require the establishment of a strong ethical code of conduct for all employees and executives. Serve the citizens of British Columbia by respecting the shared public trust and acting in accordance with the taxpayer accountability principles. |

