
NEWS RELEASE

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March 14, 2011

Office of the Premier

Premier Christy Clark announces cabinet

VICTORIA – Premier Christy Clark today announced a new, smaller cabinet focused on putting families first, creating jobs and changing the way British Columbians engage with their government.

“Our new cabinet will reflect the priorities of British Columbians and put families at the centre of all our decision-making,” said Premier Clark. “Together, we will focus on creating jobs and building a strong economy because that is the single most important thing we can do to support families and ensure we can invest in critical services like health and education. This is a team that will work hard to ensure that prosperity and opportunity extend to every region of our province.”

The new cabinet is made up of 17 ministers plus the premier, reduced from the previous total of 24. This includes the new Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, which will bring together many of the functions in government focused on job creation under a single ministry. As well, three new cabinet committees reflect the priorities of government – the Committee on Families First; the Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth; and the Committee on Open Government and Engagement.

Responsibility for colleges and universities has been recombined under the Ministry of Advanced Education; responsibility for mining has been returned to the Ministry of Energy and Mines; Labour and Citizen Services have been combined; and Forests and Lands has been combined with Natural Resource Operations.

The new cabinet appointed and sworn into office by the Lieutenant-Governor in a ceremony today is:

- Premier – Hon. Christy Clark
- Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance – Hon. Kevin Falcon
- Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation – Hon. Mary Polak
- Minister of Advanced Education – Hon. Naomi Yamamoto
- Minister of Agriculture – Hon. Don McRae
- Attorney General – Hon. Barry Penner
- Minister of Children and Family Development – Hon. Mary McNeil
- Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Hon. Ida Chong
- Minister of Education – Hon. George Abbott
- Minister of Energy and Mines (minister responsible for Housing) – Hon. Rich Coleman
- Minister of Environment – Hon. Terry Lake
- Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Hon. Steve Thomson
- Minister of Health – Hon. Michael de Jong
- Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation – Hon. Pat Bell
- Minister of Labour, Citizens’ Services and Open Government – Hon. Stephanie Cadieux
- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General – Hon. Shirley Bond
- Minister of Social Development (minister responsible for multiculturalism) – Hon. Harry Bloy
- Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure – Hon. Blair Lekstrom

Additionally, 10 MLAs have been named as parliamentary secretaries, and will work with ministers to focus on key initiatives of government.

Rich Coleman will serve as the Government House Leader and Terry Lake will be the deputy Government House Leader. Ben Stewart will be the Government whip.

“We want British Columbians to have the opportunity to be more engaged with government decision-making,” said Premier Clark. “We will work with citizens to find solutions to problems, set priorities openly and explain why we make the decisions we do. British Columbia is starting from a position of strength. It is up to us to build on this strength for the betterment of families across our province.”

Contact: Shane Mills
Director of Communications
Office of the Premier
250 661-1015

Six Backgrounders are attached

BACKGROUNDER

Members of the Executive Council

Premier – Hon. Christy Clark

Finance and Deputy Premier – Hon. Kevin Falcon

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation – Hon. Mary Polak

Advanced Education – Hon. Naomi Yamamoto

Agriculture – Hon. Don McRae

Attorney General – Hon. Barry Penner

Children and Family Development – Hon. Mary McNeil

Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Hon. Ida Chong

Education – Hon. George Abbott

Energy and Mines (Minister Responsible for Housing) – Hon. Rich Coleman

Environment – Hon. Terry Lake

Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Hon. Steve Thomson

Health – Hon. Michael de Jong

Jobs, Tourism and Innovation – Hon. Pat Bell

Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government – Hon. Stephanie Cadieux

Public Safety and Solicitor General – Hon. Shirley Bond

Social Development (Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism) – Hon. Harry Bloy

Transportation and Infrastructure – Hon. Blair Lekstrom

The following members of the legislative assembly are appointed as parliamentary secretaries:

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier – John Les

Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Gas to the Minister of Energy and Mines – Pat Pimm

Parliamentary Secretary for Clean Technology to the Minister of Energy and Mines – John Yap

Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resource Operations Review to the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Randy Hawes

Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors to the Minister of Health – Margaret MacDiarmid

Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Economic Development to the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation – Donna Barnett

Parliamentary Secretary for Industry, Research and Innovation to the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation – Moira Stilwell

Parliamentary Secretary for Non-profit Partnerships to the Minister of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government – Gordon Hogg

Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism to the Minister of Social Development – Richard Lee

Parliamentary Secretary for Public Transportation to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure – Iain Black

Contact: Shane Mills
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BACKGROUNDER

Cabinet Committees

Priorities and Planning Committee

Premier Christy Clark (Chair)

Rich Coleman (Vice Chair)

George Abbott

Pat Bell

Stephanie Cadieux

Michael de Jong

Kevin Falcon

John Les

Ben Stewart

Treasury Board

Kevin Falcon (Chair)

Shirley Bond (Vice-Chair)

Harry Bloy

Ida Chong

Colin Hansen

Randy Hawes

Terry Lake

John Les

Mary McNeil

Barry Penner

Cabinet Committee on Families First

Mary McNeil (Chair)

Margaret MacDiarmid (Vice Chair)

George Abbott

Harry Bloy

Marc Dalton

Michael de Jong

Dave Hayer

Gordon Hogg

Joan McIntyre

Jane Thornthwaite

Naomi Yamamoto

Cabinet Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth

Pat Bell (Chair)

Moira Stilwell (Vice Chair)

Donna Barnett

Iain Black

Shirley Bond

Rich Coleman

Blair Lekstrom

Mary Polak

Ralph Sultan

Steve Thomson

John van Dongen

Environment and Land Use Committee

Steve Thomson (Chair)

Terry Lake (Vice Chair)

Murray Coell

Rich Coleman

Eric Foster

Randy Hawes

Kash Heed

Don McRae

Pat Pimm

Mary Polak

Cabinet Committee on Open Government and Engagement

Stephanie Cadieux (Chair)

Blair Lekstrom (Vice Chair)

Ida Chong

Gordon Hogg

Kevin Krueger

Richard Lee

Don McRae

John Slater

Naomi Yamamoto

Legislative Review Committee

Barry Penner (Chair)

Rich Coleman (Vice Chair)

Ida Chong

Michael de Jong

Douglas Horne

Blair Lekstrom

Norm Letnick

John Rustad

Ben Stewart

Ralph Sultan

Contact: Shane Mills
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BACKGROUND

Summary of ministry responsibilities

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

General Responsibilities

Cabinet operations
Corporate planning
Strategic policy and legislative priorities
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Board Resourcing and Development Office

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION

General Responsibilities

Aboriginal policy and coordination
Negotiation and implementation of treaty and non-treaty agreements
Consultation and accommodation policy
Crown/First Nations relationships
Partnerships and Community Renewal
First Citizens' Fund

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

BC Treaty Commission
First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council
Native Economic Development Advisory Board

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

General Responsibilities

Universities
Colleges
Post-secondary financing
Post-secondary policy and accountability
Student financial assistance

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

University Boards of Governors
Colleges and institutes
Private Career Training Institutions Agency
BC College and Institute Boards
British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfers
Degree Quality Assessment Board

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

General Responsibilities

Agriculture, aquaculture and food industry development
Animal health and crop/plant protection
Food safety and quality
Commercial fisheries and fish processing
Marine fisheries and seafood industry development
Crop insurance
Grazing and range stewardship policy

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Agricultural Land Commission
BC Farm Industry Review Board
BC Wine Institute

MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

General Responsibilities

Criminal justice and family law
Administrative law policy
Court administration
Legal aid and public legal education
Alternate dispute resolution
Family maintenance
Legal services to government

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Legal Services Society
BC Utilities Commission
BC Human Rights Tribunal
BC Law Institute
BC Review Board
Environmental Appeal Board
Forest Appeals Commission
Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

General Responsibilities

Adoption and reunion services
Child protection and family development
Foster care
Child care
Children and youth with special needs
Child and youth mental health
Youth justice programs

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

BC College of Social Workers
Provincial Child Care Council

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

General Responsibilities

Community Charter
Local government
Vancouver Urban Development Agreement
University Endowment Lands
Property assessment
Sports and recreation
Film policy and classification
Arts and culture programs
Community gaming grant eligibility

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Board of Examiners
BC Assessment Authority
BC Games Society
BC Arts Council
Property Assessment Appeal Board
Islands Trust Fund Board
Provincial Capital Commission
Royal BC Museum Corporation

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

General Responsibilities

K-12 standards and accountability
K-12 funding
Independent schools
Community schools
Action Schools! BC programs
Early childhood development
Literacy
Libraries
Early Learning Agency
StrongStart BC Centres

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Education Advisory Council
BC College of Teachers
Learning Roundtable

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES (Minister Responsible for Housing)

General Responsibilities

Electricity and alternative energy policy
Oil and gas policy
Offshore oil and gas policy
Energy efficiency
Renewable energy development
Innovative Clean Energy Fund
Mines and minerals policy
Permitting and inspections of major mining projects
Geological Survey Service
Housing and homeless policy
Transition houses
Building policy
Safety standards and inspections
Landlord-tenant dispute resolution

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

BC Hydro and Power Authority
Columbia Power Corporation
Oil and Gas Commission
BC Housing Management Commission
Building Code Appeal Board
Homeowner Protection Office
Building Policy Advisory Committee
Safety Standards Appeal Board
Safety Authority of BC
Provincial Rental Housing Corporation

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

General Responsibilities

Parks, wilderness and protected areas
Air, land and water quality standards
Pollution prevention and waste management
Conservation Framework and Species-at-Risk policy
Species and ecosystem protection policy
Oceans protection and sustainability
Water protection and water sustainability policy
Water and air monitoring and reporting
Conservation and resource management enforcement
Climate Action Secretariat
Environmental Assessment Office
State of Environment reporting
Environmental monitoring
Flood Management
Environmental Emergency Response

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

General Responsibilities

Treasury Board
Office of the Comptroller General
Provincial treasury
Economic and financial analysis
Financial institutions regulation
Fiscal planning and tax policy
Tax collection including property, income and consumer
Forestry, mines, oil and gas revenue
Collection and loan management
Homeowner Grants
Capital Planning Secretariat
Crown Agencies Resourcing Office
BC Public Service Agency
BC Olympic Games Secretariat
International Financial Centre
Smart regulation
Regulatory reform
Economic and sector analysis
Renaissance Capital fund
BC Venture Capital program
Investment Capital
Planning and Partnership Development

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

BC Securities Commission
Partnerships BC
Insurance Council of BC
Real Estate Council of BC
Mineral Tax Review Board
Pacific Carbon Trust
BC Immigrant Investment Fund

MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS

General Responsibilities

Forest stewardship policy
Timber supply, inventory and tree improvement
Pest and disease management policy
Forest investment
BC Timber Sales
Tenures and pricing
Resource roads and bridges policy
Crown land administration policy
Crown land allocation and authorizations
Forests and range authorizations
Roads/bridges/engineering
Independent power production
Mineral and coal titles
Mines and minerals permitting and inspections except for major mining projects
Aquaculture licensing and regulation
Water use planning and authorizations
Aboriginal consultation and coordination – natural resource operations
Resorts and alpine ski developments
Licensing and permitting for angling, hunting and trapping
GeoBC and information management
FrontCounter BC
Provincial hatchery and stocking program
Watershed restoration
Fish, wildlife and habitat management
Drought management
Dam and dyke safety and regulation
Flood plain management
Pests, disease, invasive plants and species
Public backcountry and commercial recreation
Recreation sites and trails
Archaeology and Heritage Conservation policy and permitting
Resource management compliance
Crown land restoration
Forest investment operations
Wildfire management

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Forest Practices Board
Timber Export Advisory Committee
Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board
Mediation and Arbitration Board
Assayers Certification Board of Examiners

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

General Responsibilities

Leadership and support for the health service delivery system
Health promotion and protection
Aboriginal health promotion
Public health planning
Provincial Health Officer
Performance management of the health authorities
Health human resource planning
Health regulation and licensing
Health information systems and e-health
Women and seniors
End of life and palliative care
Community and home support services
Assisted living and residential care
Community care licensing
Mental health and addictions services
Communicable diseases prevention and addictions services promotion
Healthy living/chronic disease prevention
Medical Services Plan
ActNow BC
HealthLinkBC
BC Bedline
PharmaCare
Vital Statistics
BC Ambulance Service

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Health Authorities
Medical Services Commission
BC Patient Safety & Quality Council
Patient Care Quality Review Boards
Hospital Appeal Board
Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board

MINISTRY OF JOBS, TOURISM AND INNOVATION

General Responsibilities

Tourism strategy
Aboriginal tourism
Recreational fish and wildlife promotion
B.C. brand designations
International and internal trade policy
Export market development
Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement
Research, innovation and technology
Year of Science
Small Business Roundtable
Canada-BC Business Service Centre
Immigration policy
Labour market policy
Provincial Nominee Program
WorkBC
BladeRunners
Industry training
Community adjustment
Community Development Trust
Community Business Loans Program
Land use planning
Regional economic and rural development
Economic development policy
Mountain pine beetle
Columbia Basin Trust
Rural BC Secretariat
Asia Pacific Trade and Investment
International Marketing Secretariat
Trade initiatives
Pacific Coast Collaborative

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Pavilion Corporation of BC
Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.
Leading Edge Endowment Fund Board
BC Innovation Council
Premier's Technology Council
Northern Development Initiative Trust
North Island Coast Development Initiative Trust
Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust
Nechako-Kitimaat Development Fund Society
BC-Alcan Northern Development Fund
Industry Training Authority

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, CITIZENS' SERVICES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT

General Responsibilities

Citizen service delivery

- Government agents
- BC Stats
- BCOOnline
- Enquiry BC
- Online Channel Office
- Business and personal property registries services
- Citizen engagement

Queen's Printer

Chief Information Officer

Information and privacy policy

Workforce planning

Employee engagement

Public Affairs Bureau

Volunteer and non-profit support

Shared Services BC

- Accommodation and Real Estate Services
- Workplace Technology Services
- Alternative Service Delivery
- Procurement and Supply Services
- Corporate Accounting Services
- Telecommunications infrastructure
- Solutions BC

Labour relations

Employment standards

Occupational health and safety

Workers Compensation Act

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Knowledge Network Corporation

BC Labour Relations Board

Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal

Employment Standards Tribunal

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

General Responsibilities

Police and correctional services
Provincial emergency management
Emergency social services
Crime prevention programs
Criminal record check and protection order registry
Victim assistance
Consumer services
Superintendent of Motor Vehicles
Office of the Fire Commissioner
Liquor control and licensing
Liquor Distribution Branch
Gaming policy and enforcement
Responsible Gambling Strategy
Coroners Service of BC
Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Insurance Corporation of British Columbia
Police boards
BC Lottery Corporation
BC Pension Corporation

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism)

General Responsibilities

Income assistance
Disability assistance
Delivery of employment programs
Provincial Disability Strategy
Adult community living services
Mental health and addictions services coordination
Multiculturalism

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Community Living BC
Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal
Multicultural Advisory Council

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

General Responsibilities

Transportation planning and policy
Highway construction and maintenance
Commercial vehicle safety and inspections
Port and airport development
Infrastructure grants
Major capital project management

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions

BC Rail
Passenger Transportation Board
BC Transit
BC Transportation Financing Authority
Rapid Transit 2000 Project

Contact: Shane Mills
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BACKGROUND

Deputy minister list

Office of the Premier

John Dyble, Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service
Pierrette Maranda, Associate Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Relations

Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Steve Munro, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Advanced Education

Philip Steenkamp, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Agriculture

Wes Shoemaker, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Attorney General

David Loukidelis, Deputy Attorney General

Ministry of Children and Family Development

Stephen Brown, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Don Fast, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Education

James Gorman, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Energy and Mines

Steve Carr, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Environment

Cairine MacDonald, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Finance

Peter Milburn, Deputy Minister
Lynda Tarras, Head, BC Public Service Agency

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Doug Konkin, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Health

Graham Whitmarsh, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation

Dana Hayden, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government

Kim Henderson, Deputy Minister, Citizens' Services and Open Government

Rob Lapper, Deputy Minister, Labour

Neil Sweeney, Deputy Minister, Public Affairs Bureau

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Minister

Paul Straszak, President and CEO, Public Sector Employers' Council

Ministry of Social Development

Mark Sieben, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Grant Main, Deputy Minister

Contact: Shane Mills
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 250 661-1015

BACKGROUNDER

Office of the Premier staff (Victoria)

Mike McDonald, Chief of Staff

Dimitri Pantazopoulos, Principal Secretary (Effective April 4)

Kim Haakstad, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

Chris Olsen, Press Secretary

Shane Mills, Director of Communications

Doug Brown, Manager, Communications & Issues Management

Trevor Halford, Senior Communications Coordinator

Rebecca Scott, Communications Officer and Deputy Press Secretary

Stacie Dley, Communications Coordinator

Jessica Hodge, Executive Assistant to the Premier

Jennifer Chalmers, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Antoinette De Wit, Managing Director, Correspondence

Judy McCallum, Executive Scheduling Co-ordinator

Contact: Shane Mills
 Director of Communications
 Office of the Premier
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BACKGROUNDER

Premier and Minister Biographies

PREMIER CHRISTY CLARK



Christy Clark was sworn in as British Columbia's 35th Premier on March 14, 2011.

She previously served as the MLA for Port Moody-Burnaby Mountain (1996-2001) and Port Moody-Westwood (2001-2005). She has served as Deputy Premier, Minister of Education, Minister of Children and Family Development and vice-chair of Treasury Board. During her first term, she sat on the Select Standing Committee on Environment and Tourism and on the Official Opposition Caucus Committee for Children.

She took a break from government in 2005 to spend more time with her family. She worked in the media during her time from government, including as a columnist and commentator and host of the "Christy Clark Show" on CKNW.

Premier Clark brought the anti-bullying "Pink Shirt Campaign" to British Columbia to raise awareness of issues related to bullying in our schools, workplace and communities.

She has received several awards including the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award and the 2009 Woman of the Year in BC by the Consumer Choice Awards.

She attended Simon Fraser University (SFU), the Sorbonne (France) and the University of Edinburgh (Scotland, UK), studying Political Science and Religious Studies. She was born and raised in Burnaby and graduated from Burnaby Senior Secondary.

**HON. GEORGE ABBOTT
MINISTER OF EDUCATION**



George Abbott was appointed Minister of Education on March 14, 2011. First elected as MLA in 1996 to represent the riding of Shuswap, George was re-elected for a fourth time in 2009.

George has previously served as Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Minister of Health, Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and Minister of Sustainable Resource Management.

Before his election to the Legislative Assembly, George was a political science instructor at Okanagan University College.

HON. PAT BELL
MINISTER OF JOBS, TOURISM AND INNOVATION



Pat Bell was appointed Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation on March 14, 2011. He was re-elected for a third term as MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie in 2009.

Pat has previously served as Minister of Forests, Mines and Lands, Minister of Forests and Range, Minister of Agriculture and Lands and as Minister of State for Mining.

He has served on the Government Caucus Committee on Natural Resources and B.C. Task Force on Mining, and as chair of the Small Scale Salvage Review Committee. Pat has also served on the Legislative Select Standing Committees on Education and Crown Corporations.

Prior to becoming an MLA, Pat owned a trucking company and co-owned a logging company.

HON. SHIRLEY BOND
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL



Shirley Bond was appointed Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General on March 14, 2011. She was re-elected for a third term as MLA for Prince George-Valemount in 2009.

Shirley has previously served as Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister of Education and Minister responsible for Early Learning and Literacy and Deputy Premier, Minister of Advanced Education and Minister of Health Services. She also served as Vice-Chair of the Treasury Board, chaired the Cabinet Committee on New Relationship Coordination, and sat as a member of the Cabinet climate Action Committee.

Before being elected to the Legislative Assembly, she served three terms on the Prince George School Board.

HON. HARRY BLOY

MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR MULTICULTURALISM



Harry Bloy was appointed Minister of Social Development and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism on March 14, 2011. He was first elected in the riding of Burquitlam in 2001. He was re-elected for a third time in 2009 in the new riding of Burnaby-Lougheed.

Harry served on the Government Caucus Committee for Natural Resources and Economy and various other committees including Finance and Government Services, Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills, Legislative Initiatives, Crown Corporations, Public Accounts, Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. In addition, he also served as Deputy Chair of Committee of the Whole.

Prior to being an MLA, Harry was the President of a local telecommunications company.

HON. STEPHANIE CADIEUX
MINISTER OF LABOUR, CITIZENS' SERVICES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT



Stephanie Cadieux was appointed Minister of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government on March 14, 2011. Stephanie was elected MLA for Surrey-Panorama in the 2009 general provincial election.

Stephanie previously served as Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. She also was chair of the Special Committee to Appoint an Information and Privacy Commissioner, and was a member of the Select Standing Committees on Health and on Children and Youth and the Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Living with a spinal cord injury since a car accident at the age of 18, she became a strong community advocate for programs to assist people with physical disabilities to achieve their goals and regain independence. In 2007, Stephanie worked with 2010 Legacies Now to develop an Accessible Tourism Plan for BC.

Stephanie worked with the BC Paraplegic Association for eight years, most recently as director of marketing and development.

HON. IDA CHONG
MINISTER OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



Ida Chong was appointed Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development on March 14, 2011. She was re-elected for a fourth term as MLA for Oak Bay–Gordon Head in the 2009 election.

Ida's previous cabinet portfolios include Minister of Science and Universities, Minister of Regional Economic and Skills Development, Minister of Healthy Living Sport, Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development, Minister Responsible for the Asia-Pacific Initiative, Minister of Community Services, Minister of Advanced Education and Minister of State for Women's and Seniors' Services. In addition to her role as Minister, she also served on the Cabinet Committee for Climate Action and Treasury Board.

Ida has been involved in her community for years – volunteering for a number of not-for-profit groups and serving as municipal councillor for the District of Saanich, from 1993-1996.

HON. RICH COLEMAN
MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING



Rich Coleman was appointed Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Housing on March 14, 2011. He was re-elected for a fourth term as MLA for Fort Langley-Aldergrove in the 2009 general election.

Rich's previous cabinet positions include Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Minister Responsible for Housing, Minister of Housing and Social Development and Minister of Forests and Range.

Before entering public life, Rich was governor of the BC Kinsmen, president of the Aldergrove Chamber of Commerce, and a director of several volunteer boards.

HON. MICHAEL de JONG
MINISTER OF HEALTH



Michael de Jong was named Minister of Health on March 14, 2011. He was re-elected in 2009 as the MLA for the newly named constituency of Abbotsford West, an area he has represented since first being elected to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia in a 1994 by-election.

The five-term MLA previously served as Attorney General, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Minister of Labour and Citizens' Services, and Minister of Forests. In addition he also served as Government House Leader.

Before his election as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in 1994, Mike served two terms as an elected School Trustee for Abbotsford School District 34, and was a practicing lawyer with his own Abbotsford firm. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton University in Ottawa and a law degree from the University of Alberta.

HON. KEVIN FALCON
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY PREMIER



Kevin Falcon was appointed Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier on March 14, 2011. He was first elected in 2001 to represent the riding of Surrey-Cloverdale, and was re-elected in 2005 and 2009.

Kevin previously served as Minister of Health Services, Minister of Transportation and Minister of State for De-regulation.

Before being elected to the Legislative Assembly in 2001, Kevin was president of Access Group, a corporate communications firm he founded in 1998. He has also worked in the real estate development industry and was vice-president of Northwest Investment Properties.

HON. TERRY LAKE
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT



Dr. Terry Lake was appointed Minister of Environment on March 14, 2011. He was first elected in 2009 as MLA for the riding of Kamloops-North Thompson.

Terry served as the Parliamentary Secretary for Health Promotion to the Minister of Health Services. Previous to that Terry served as Parliamentary Secretary for the Ranching Task Force to the Minister of Agriculture and Lands. He also sat as a member of the Selecting Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, on Health, and on Legislative Initiatives and was a member of the Early Childhood Education Innovations Committee.

A veterinarian by profession, Terry served as the Mayor of the City of Kamloops from 2005-2008 and as a city councillor from 2002-2005.

HON. BLAIR LEKSTROM
MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Blair Lekstrom was appointed Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on March 14, 2011. Blair was first elected in the riding of Peace River South in 2001. He was re-elected for a third time in 2009.

Blair has previously served as Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Minister of Community Development.

Previously, Blair chaired the Legislative Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (2001, 2002, 2005 and 2006) and served on the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Agriculture Policy Development Committee, the Legislative Review Committee and the Government Caucus Committee on the Economy.

Before becoming an MLA, Blair served as Mayor of the City of Dawson Creek. He was first elected mayor in 1996, after serving for three years as a councillor.

HON. DON McRAE
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE



Don McRae was appointed Minister of Agriculture on March 14, 2011. He was first elected in 2009 as MLA for the riding of Comox Valley.

Don served as Convener of the Select Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and was a member of the Select Standing Committee on Health and Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

Don was born and raised in the Comox Valley. For 14 years he taught at GP Vanier Secondary School in Courtenay. Don also served as a Courtenay City Councillor from 2002-2009.

HON. MARY McNEIL
MINISTER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



Mary McNeil was appointed Minister of Children and Family Development on March 14, 2011. She was first elected as MLA for Vancouver-False Creek in the 2009 election.

Mary previously served as Minister for Citizen Services, Minister of State for the Olympics and ActNow BC.

Before becoming an MLA, she served as president and CEO of the BC Cancer Foundation for eight years. Mary also served on the Vancouver Police Board for four years.

HON. BARRY PENNER Q.C.
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Barry Penner, Q.C. was appointed Attorney General on December 1, 2010. He was re-elected for a fourth term as MLA in the riding of Chilliwack-Hope in 2009.

Barry previously served as Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, and Minister of Environment.

Barry has also chaired the Legislative Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills, and served as a member of the Legislative Select Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, and the Cabinet Committee for Legislative Review.

HON. MARY POLAK
MINISTER OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION



Mary Polak was appointed Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation on March 14, 2011. She was re-elected to the B.C. Legislature in 2009, having represented the constituents of Langley since 2005.

Prior to her new Cabinet post, Mary served as the Minister of Children and Family Development and Minister Responsible for Child Care, Minister of Healthy Living and Sport and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health for the Conversation on Health.

Mary previously sat on the Cabinet Committee on New Relationship Coordination and the Government Caucus Committee on Social Development as well as on the Government Caucus Committee for Natural Resources and the Economy, the Select Standing Committees for Children and Youth, Education and Public Accounts, the Cabinet Committee on Agenda Development and the Special Committee to Review the Personal Information Protection Act.

Before being elected to the Legislative Assembly, Mary served as a trustee and former chair of the Surrey School Board.

HON. STEVE THOMSON
MINISTER OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS



Steve Thomson was appointed Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on March 14, 2011. He was elected to represent the riding of Kelowna-Mission in 2009.

Steve previously served as Minister of Natural Resource Operations and Minister of Energy, and Minister of Agriculture and Lands.

Steve is the former executive director of the BC Agriculture Council and has developed his career and experience working on behalf of British Columbia farmers and ranchers. He has served as General Manager of the BC Fruit Growers Association and the BC Milk Producers Association.

He has also served as a director of the Kelowna Museum, the Okanagan Innovation Fund and the BC BioEnergy Network.

HON. NAOMI YAMAMOTO
MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION



Naomi Yamamoto was appointed Minister of Advanced Education on March 14, 2011. She was elected as MLA for North Vancouver-Lonsdale in 2009.

Naomi previously served as Minister of State for Building Code Renewal and Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations.

Naomi was the president and owner of Tora Design Group in North Vancouver for 21 years. She also enjoyed working with the business community as the president and general manager of the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.

She served on the board of the North Shore Credit Union and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and was president of the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation.

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