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BUDGET AND FISCAL PLAN

2022/23 – 2024/25

February 22, 2022



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As required by Section 7(1)(d) of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, I confirm that *Budget 2022* contains the following elements:

- Fiscal forecasts for 2022/23 to 2024/25 (provided in Part 1) and economic forecasts for 2022 to 2026 (provided in Part 3).
- A report on the advice received from the Economic Forecast Council (EFC) in December 2021 (updated in January 2022) on the economic growth outlook for British Columbia, including a range of forecasts for 2022 and 2023 (see Part 3, page 121).
- Material economic, demographic, fiscal, accounting policy, and other assumptions and risks underlying *Budget 2022* economic and fiscal forecasts. In particular:
 - The economic forecast reflects an improved outlook for British Columbia amidst ongoing uncertainty associated with the global COVID-19 pandemic. In recognition of downside risks, the economic projections assumed in *Budget 2022* are prudent relative to the average of the forecasts provided by the Economic Forecast Council.
 - The economic forecast does not fully incorporate fiscal policy measures announced in the current budget (*Budget 2022*), since the timing of budget decisions generally coincides with the development of the economic forecast. However, a preliminary estimate of government spending for the current budget was included to improve completeness. The full budget policy measures will be incorporated into the economic outlook in the updated forecast included in the *First Quarterly Report*.
 - The corporate income tax revenue forecast is based on projections for national corporate taxable income provided by the federal government.
 - Natural gas royalty forecasts continue to adopt a lower natural gas price forecast compared to the private sector average in order to maintain prudence against volatility.
 - The fiscal plan includes three-year financial projections for school districts, post-secondary institutions and health authorities, based on plans submitted by those entities to the Ministries of Education and Child Care, Advanced Education and Skills Training, and Health, respectively, and for the other service delivery agencies and the commercial Crown corporations.
 - The fiscal plan includes a Pandemic Recovery Contingencies allocation of \$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24, as part of the Contingencies vote totalling \$4.848 billion in 2022/23, \$4.412 billion in 2023/24, and \$3.987 billion in 2024/25. The forecast allowance is \$1.0 billion in each year of the fiscal plan. Government's economic and fiscal prudence measures generally have resulted in government exceeding its budget targets.

To the best of my knowledge, the three-year fiscal plan contained in *Budget 2022* conforms to the standards and guidelines of generally accepted accounting principles for senior governments as outlined in Note 1 of the 2020/21 *Public Accounts*.

I would like to recognize staff in government ministries and agencies for their contribution to this document. I would especially like to acknowledge staff in the Ministry of Finance, whose professionalism, commitment and expertise were essential to the completion of this budget and fiscal plan.



Heather Wood
Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board

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(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Revenue	70,220	68,552	70,177	72,325
Expense	(66,453)	(71,013)	(72,359)	(74,506)
Pandemic Recovery Contingencies	(3,250)	(2,000)	(1,000)	-
Forecast allowance	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Deficit	(483)	(5,461)	(4,182)	(3,181)
Capital spending:				
Taxpayer-supported capital spending	7,157	9,279	9,333	8,815
Self-supported capital spending	3,828	4,374	4,437	3,144
Total capital spending	10,985	13,653	13,770	11,959
Provincial Debt:				
Taxpayer-supported debt	61,731	73,475	83,302	90,846
Self-supported debt	28,814	30,956	33,004	33,930
Total debt (including forecast allowance)	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776
Taxpayer-supported debt to GDP ratio	17.8%	20.0%	21.8%	22.8%
Taxpayer-supported debt to revenue ratio	92.9%	110.9%	122.7%	129.8%
Economic Forecast:				
	2021	2022	2023	2024
Real GDP growth	5.0%	4.0%	2.5%	2.1%
Nominal GDP growth	12.4%	5.8%	4.1%	4.0%

Building a Stronger BC Together

The province has been challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic and weather events that have been fueled by climate change. Through these emergencies, British Columbians have stood together, supported each other, and have demonstrated the province’s collective strength. There is more to be done: the pandemic and recent climate-related disasters have highlighted the need to continue to strengthen the public services that people rely on, from health care and education to child care and housing. In addition, they have shown the need to continue to build a stronger B.C. with an economy that meets the needs of tomorrow, while fighting climate change.

Budget 2022 expands on historic investments made since 2017 to build a stronger society, a stronger economy, and a stronger environment. This includes \$6.6 billion in new operating funding over the three-year fiscal plan period.

There remains ongoing uncertainty regarding the course of the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disaster recovery costs. *Budget 2022* provides Pandemic Recovery Contingencies funding of \$2 billion in 2022/23, and \$1 billion in 2023/24 to ensure the Province can continue to provide ongoing health responses and can continue to help people, businesses and communities that are still recovering from the pandemic’s impacts. Additionally, more than \$1.1 billion is earmarked in General Programs Contingencies for disaster recovery costs over the next three years in recognition of the need to have the flexibility to be responsive and support communities as the costs of recovery become better known. This is in addition to \$400 million in 2022/23 provided for disaster recovery in the *Emergency Program Act* budget and the \$5 billion expected from the Government of Canada that is designated for disaster recovery in B.C.

Building a Stronger Society

The health and safety of British Columbians continues to remain government's top priority. The pandemic has shown the need to continue work to strengthen the health care system that so many British Columbians have relied on. *Budget 2022* continues to prioritize the health and safety of British Columbians with more than \$3.2 billion in new funding over the fiscal plan period for B.C.'s health care system. This includes funding to expand primary care services and First Nations' primary care in all regions of the province, to address wait lists for surgeries and diagnostic imaging, to support cancer care services and to strengthen B.C.'s ambulance system in order to improve response times. In addition, \$875 million is allocated in Pandemic Recovery Contingencies in 2022/23 to support ongoing COVID-19 health response needs.

The Province is investing more than \$633 million over the next three years to implement a cross-government approach to prevent homelessness and respond quickly to assist people experiencing homelessness to become stably housed. This includes supports for youth aging out of care who are at increased risk of becoming homeless, rent supplements with wraparound supports for individuals who are experiencing homelessness, complex care housing for individuals with significant mental health and/or substance use challenges, and a continuation of strategies to provide permanent housing options for people that are temporarily housed as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Budget 2022 builds on the \$2.4 billion in investments made in the first four years of the ChildCareBC plan by investing \$284 million in new provincial funding on top of previous investments. In addition, a historic agreement has been signed with the Government of Canada which delivers over \$3.2 billion over five years. Combined, federal and provincial spending will total \$4.4 billion over the fiscal plan period to continue to build a child care system that will provide more affordable, accessible, inclusive and high quality child care to support families. This will lower fees

for before- and after-school care and preschool beginning in 2023/24, expand wage enhancements to more early childhood educators, and create more child care spaces across the province.

Significant new funding to support other essential public services includes: \$664 million in the K-12 education sector; \$259 million for children, youth and family services, and \$326 million for justice and public safety services.

Building a Stronger Economy

Government's economic plan, *StrongerBC: A Plan for Today, a Vision for Tomorrow* outlines how we can grow an economy that works for everyone by preparing for jobs of the future, closing the digital divide, and driving new innovation. It includes a generational commitment to develop the talent B.C. needs to support growth in the future.

Budget 2022 makes progress on the *StrongerBC* plan with \$50 million to support inclusive and sustainable growth by delivering additional, targeted strategies and investments, including those that grow B.C.'s life sciences, manufacturing and agricultural sectors and to support reconciliation through economic development. An additional \$195 million is targeted to the B.C. life sciences sector in 2021/22.

More than \$289 million in new funding over the next five years will be provided to expand high-speed internet access throughout the province, bringing total investments to expand connectivity to remote, rural, and Indigenous communities to over \$509 million by 2026/27. Through this investment, more than 280 communities will be connected to high-speed internet, improving access to education and health care, and expanding the ability for local businesses to reach the international marketplace.

The Province is also developing a comprehensive workforce readiness plan titled *Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow*, to proactively address both systemic and emerging workforce challenges, such as shifting demographics and climate adaptation. This plan will help to fill the one million job openings forecasted by 2031. *Budget 2022*

provides more than \$67 million in funding for skills and jobs training. This funding will create more training seats for health care assistants and in the skilled trades, in addition to more training seats for early childhood educators funded under ChildCareBC.

Funding of more than \$185 million is provided over the fiscal plan to support communities through the deferral of logging in old growth forests. This includes funding to connect workers to employment opportunities, to provide skills training to community members, and to forge partnerships with businesses and communities to transition and create jobs through diversified economies and infrastructure projects.

A stronger British Columbia requires moving forward together through true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. In 2021, the Province released a draft Action Plan to support ongoing consultation and further collaboration with Indigenous Peoples. Once finalized, the Action Plan will help advance reconciliation by defining a set of long-term goals and outcomes, and identifying specific actions covering the whole of government. The budget continues to support a number of measures that promote reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. This includes funding for the creation of a Declaration Act Secretariat to implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and funding for Indigenous primary care and Aboriginal Head Start. Establishing a new Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship will also support reconciliation by helping to bring the Province's natural resource policy framework in line with the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

A Stronger Environment

Government reaffirmed its role as a global leader in climate action with the launch of the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030. In addition, the devastating climate-related disasters in the past year have highlighted the importance of protecting people and communities from the effects of the changing climate. More than \$1 billion in new funding is

provided over the fiscal plan period to continue the fight against climate change and to implement new initiatives identified in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030. This includes \$651 million in new operating funding to support clean transportation, energy efficient buildings, and to support industry and communities to manage the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Budget 2022 also includes significant investments to help the Province protect people and communities from climate-related disasters. In addition to the \$1.5 billion in allocations to support community recovery from disaster events, \$600 million in operating and capital funding is provided to continue the response to climate-related disasters, for local government and First Nation disaster and recovery projects, and to begin to implement the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy to support British Columbians through future emergencies.

Capital Investments

Budget 2022 makes significant capital commitments in the health, transportation, and education sectors. Taxpayer-supported infrastructure spending on hospitals, schools, post-secondary facilities, transit, and roads is forecast to be \$27.4 billion, the highest level ever, over the three-year fiscal plan.

Capital spending of self-supported Crown corporations is expected to total \$12.0 billion over three years, relating primarily to electrical generation, transmission and distribution projects.

Economic Outlook

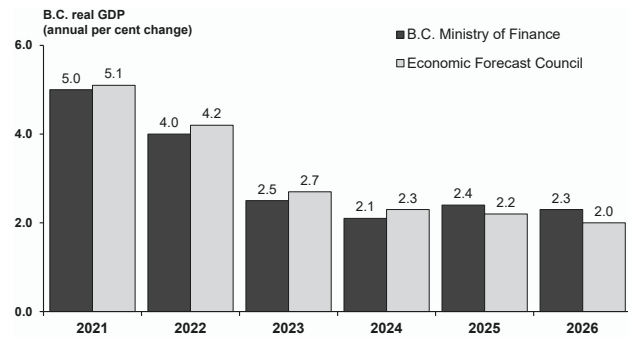
B.C.'s economy rebounded in 2021 from the initial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, despite significant pandemic and climate-related disruptions. The economy has proven resilient to pandemic interruptions, aided by government emergency response programs, cooperation with public health orders and a strong vaccination program, and easing of restrictions. While the recovery has broadened over the past year, it remains uneven with sectors like tourism,

hospitality, recreation, and live events yet to fully recover. The path of the ongoing economic recovery in B.C. and its trading partners remains highly uncertain amid the evolution of the pandemic and supply-chain disruptions. However, expenditures and hiring to permanently rebuild damaged infrastructure from the November 2021 floods and landslides will have a positive effect on jobs and economic activity in the province.

It is estimated that the B.C. economy expanded by 5.0 per cent in 2021, following a 3.4 per cent decline in 2020. The economy is forecast to expand by 4.0 per cent in 2022 and 2.5 per cent in 2023. Over the medium-term (2024 to 2026), growth is expected to range between 2.1 per cent and 2.4 per cent annually.

The *Budget 2022* B.C. real GDP forecast over the three-year fiscal plan is below the average outlook provided by the Economic Forecast Council (EFC). This is one of the levels of prudence built into the fiscal plan. The outlook for 2025 and 2026 is slightly higher than the average EFC forecast as LNG production is anticipated to provide more support to the economy over that period.

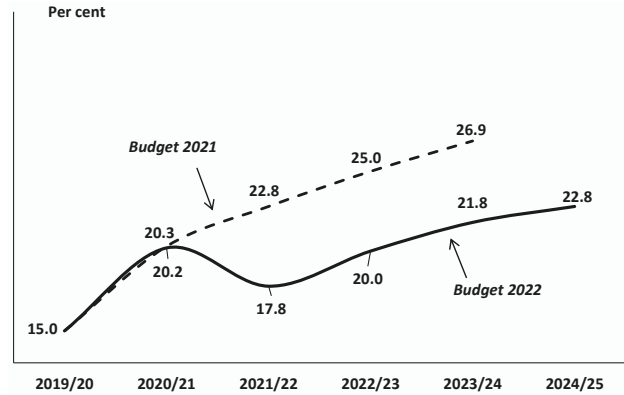
Prudent Economic Forecast



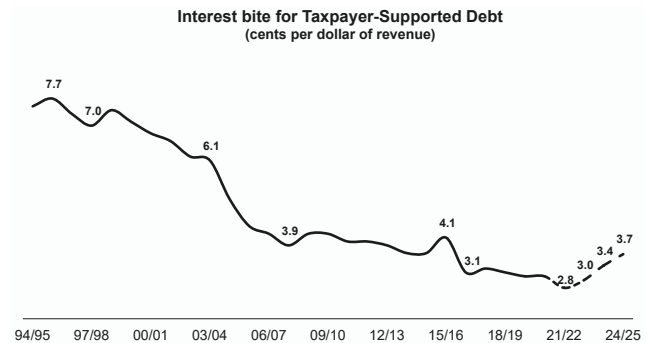
Debt Affordability

Debt affordability metrics have improved from *Budget 2021* due to significantly better operating results in the current fiscal year. The taxpayer-supported debt at the end of 2021/22 is forecast to be \$61.7 billion, which is almost \$10 billion less than forecast in *Budget 2021*. However, the debt is expected to increase over the fiscal plan to finance the operating and capital investment needs of the province, with taxpayer-supported debt forecast to be \$90.8 billion at the end of 2024/25, and the debt-to-GDP ratio rising to 22.8 per cent.

Debt to GDP



The Province’s debt-servicing costs remain at a historically low level due to prevailing low interest rates. A common metric of financing affordability is the “interest bite,” representing the taxpayer-supported interest costs as a percentage of provincial government revenue, which is at 2.8 cents per dollar in 2021/22, lower than it has been in the past, as shown below.



Risks to the Fiscal Plan

The main risks to the government’s fiscal plan include:

- Ongoing health-related uncertainty relating to the pandemic, including the extent of the spread and containment of the virus in B.C. and across the world;
- Uncertainty relating to the pace and timing of full recovery from the pandemic, which contributes to the potential volatility in the economic and fiscal outlooks;
- Increased demands for government services, such as health care, COVID-19 response or recovery;
- Demands to support the rebuild and recovery from the climate-related disasters; and

- Changes in timing of capital projects and related spending which may be influenced by several factors, such as COVID-19 safety measures, market conditions, and weather.

To mitigate the risks to the fiscal plan, government has the following levels of prudence in its projections:

- Forecast allowance of \$1.0 billion in each year of the fiscal plan;
- Pandemic Recovery Contingencies of \$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24;
- General Programs Contingencies of \$2.8 billion in 2022/23, \$3.4 billion in 2023/24, and \$4.0 billion in 2024/25; and
- A forecast for B.C.'s real GDP growth that is lower than the outlook provided by the Economic Forecast Council (0.2 percentage points lower in 2022, 2023 and 2024).

Conclusion

Budget 2022 helps to build a stronger B.C. by prioritizing investments that make a stronger society, a stronger economy, and a stronger environment. These investments harness the collective energy, spirit, and strength of all British Columbians to overcome the pandemic, recover from climate-related disasters, create new jobs, and strengthen the important public services that people rely on throughout the province. There is much reason for hope and optimism in the future. B.C. enters into this next period from a position of strength and government will continue to work with people, businesses, communities, and Indigenous Peoples to build a stronger B.C. together.

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Table 1.1 Three Year Fiscal Plan

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
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Taxpayer-supported debt to revenue ratio	92.9%	110.9%	122.7%	129.8%

Introduction

Budget 2022 builds on historic investments made since 2017 to continue building a stronger society, a stronger economy and a stronger environment. Projected deficits will decline over the fiscal plan period from \$5.5 billion in 2022/23 to \$3.2 billion in 2024/25, and debt-to-GDP ratios are below 25 per cent in each year of the fiscal plan. By taking a responsible and thoughtful approach to budgeting and fiscal planning, government continues to help British Columbians and communities overcome the pandemic, build back better from climate events and prepare for future challenges together.

Government's consolidated operating expense totals \$73.0 billion in 2022/23, \$73.4 billion in 2023/24, and \$74.5 billion in 2024/25. This includes ministry operating budget increases of almost \$6.6 billion over the fiscal plan period and a \$3.0 billion time-limited allocation in Pandemic Recovery Contingencies (\$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24). More than \$10.0 billion in funding is provided over the next three years in General Programs Contingencies for: expected flood-related costs (\$1.15 billion currently allocated), uncertain costs related to collective bargaining, and other spending uncertainties for new and existing programs. The revenue forecast rises from \$68.6 billion in 2022/23 to \$72.3 billion in 2024/25. Revenue growth reflects increased economic activity and policy measures introduced and implemented in *Budget 2022*, partly offset by declining natural resource revenues over the next three years and the effects of assumed one-time revenues recorded in 2021/22 that will not carry forward.

Capital spending on schools, universities, hospitals, affordable housing, long-term care facilities, highways, bridges, and other taxpayer-supported infrastructure is expected to reach a record \$27.4 billion over the three-year fiscal plan period. These investments will support future growth while helping to ensure that people and communities fully recover from the experience of the past two years, and harness the opportunities of a clean and inclusive economy. These investments will also create jobs in communities throughout the province, contributing to a strong and sustainable economy.

The new operating funding initiatives are discussed in the expense section starting on page 9. Details on the Province's revenue forecasts are provided in the revenue section, starting on page 55. The capital investments section begins on page 63. This is followed by the debt section on page 78 and a discussion on the risks to the fiscal plan on page 81.

Budget 2022 demonstrates government's ongoing commitment to incorporate Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) into its policy and budget processes. Since 2018, the Province has used GBA+ to ensure that comprehensive, evidence-based policy advice is provided to decision makers to achieve better results for all British Columbians. *Budget 2022* uses GBA+ analysis to monitor economic trends and inform all spending and tax decisions. This analytical tool helps to assess, where appropriate, the effect of different spending or tax measures on different groups, including people of different genders, incomes, ethnicities, geographic locations, ages, abilities, or sexual orientations.

The use of the GBA+ lens informed many budget priorities. The pandemic brought to light many disparities in the provision of services and the lived experiences of different populations around the province. Rural, remote and Indigenous communities are disconnected from necessary services and the global marketplace. *Budget 2022* addresses this divide through accelerated investments in internet connectivity, the continuation of health care service improvements for rural and remote communities, and investments in Indigenous primary care. Analysis showed that homeless populations are not a singular entity and that services must be tailored towards the needs of different individuals. The cross-government approach funded through *Budget 2022* provides an array of services along the continuum of individuals who experience homelessness in order to meet intended outcomes. In 2018 almost one in three women and just over one in eight men over the age of 15 felt unsafe or uncomfortable as a result of unwanted sexual behaviour they experienced. The rate of self-reported sexual assault among Indigenous women is three times the rate among non-Indigenous women. These experiences are informing the government's approach to the delivery of resources and supports for victims of violence and sexual assault - with long-term dedicated funding for these services provided in this budget. These examples show how the GBA+ lens helps to build a province where everyone has equal access to opportunities and services that are inclusive, respectful, and representative of the diverse population of British Columbia.

Meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples is embedded into government's decision making processes. *Budget 2022* includes new investments to support reconciliation and stronger Indigenous communities. This includes funding for a Declaration Act Secretariat, expanded Indigenous primary care, continued investments under the Homes for BC housing plan to deliver culturally appropriate social housing in Indigenous communities and off-reserve, increased access to justice for Indigenous People through a virtual Indigenous Justice Centre, Indigenous-led emergency management priorities, and culturally-based child care through the Aboriginal Head Start program. Funding is provided in 2021/22 to support Indigenous communities and First Nations to repatriate cultural belongings from museums and institutions, both in B.C. and globally. These new initiatives are further discussed throughout this document and are in addition to other priorities that support Indigenous Peoples and communities, such as accelerating the connection of homes to high-speed internet and the creation of the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship.

Expense

Consolidated Revenue Fund Spending

Consolidated Revenue Fund (core government) planned spending over the fiscal plan period is \$62.5 billion in 2022/23, \$62.9 billion in 2023/24, and \$64.2 billion in 2024/25 as shown in Table 1.3 on page 54. This includes incremental expenses of \$2.2 billion in 2022/23, \$1.7 billion in 2023/24, and \$2.7 billion in 2024/25, totaling \$6.6 billion across the three-year fiscal plan. Government remains committed to investing in ways that build a stronger society, a stronger economy and a stronger environment. Funding decisions are underpinned by government's five foundational principles: to put people first; to engage in lasting and meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples; to support equity and anti-racism in the province; to build a better future through fighting climate change; and to build a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

Building a Stronger Society by Putting People First

A Healthy British Columbia

Improving the quality of health care services and keeping British Columbians safe from the COVID-19 pandemic remains the Province's highest priority, with over \$3.2 billion provided for health care spending over the next three years. This is comprised of over \$2.9 billion to increase accessibility and quality of health and mental health services throughout the province and \$299 million for other health-related costs that are part of strategies such as complex care housing; expanding services for homeless individuals; climate preparedness and adaptation in the health care system; and ChildCareBC. These strategies are discussed in other sections of this document.

In addition, *Budget 2022* provides \$875 million in 2022/23 from Pandemic Recovery Contingencies for the Ministry of Health to continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes funding for ongoing COVID-19 and influenza vaccination programs, the provision of personal protective equipment for health care workers, and COVID-19 testing. This improves care through enhanced screenings and additional measures to limit the risk of spreading COVID-19 to vulnerable residents in long-term care facilities, assisted living facilities, and provincial mental health facilities. Initiatives will continue to ensure that people living in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in B.C. have access to critical health care. This includes funding to improve medical transportation options, access to virtual care, and increased mental health supports for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. Funding is also allocated for the BC Centre for Disease Control to produce real-time data, modelling, and epidemiological analysis; support decision making to manage the pandemic; provide educational materials to the public; and maintain enhanced lab testing throughout the province.

Budget 2022 builds upon investments since *Budget 2017 Update* by increasing base budget health funding to \$27 billion by 2024/25. This includes funding to manage the growing demand for all health services including cancer care, surgical care and primary care in British Columbia. Capital spending on health sector infrastructure in *Budget 2022* totals \$8.6 billion over three years as detailed on page 63.

Effective primary care helps patients to manage complex medical conditions and determine specialist referral requirements. Primary care also minimizes the number of patients who enter emergency departments for routine health care issues. *Budget 2022* provides \$102 million over three years to continue advancing the Primary Care Strategy, including:

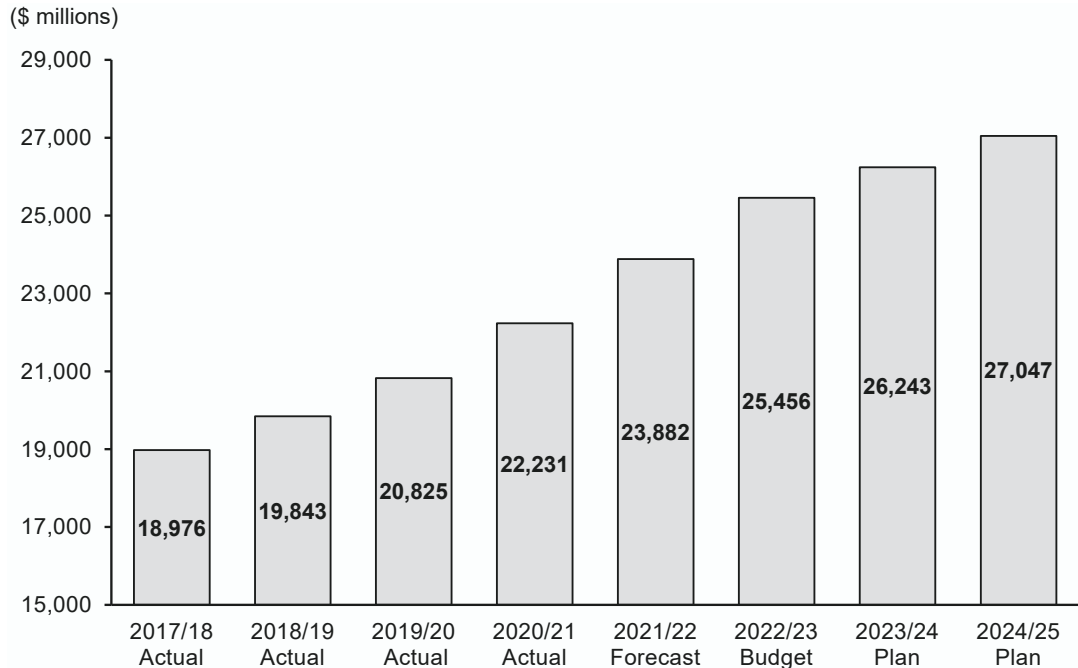
- \$57 million to increase the number of Urgent and Primary Care Centres throughout the province. There are currently 26 centres that provide urgent and primary care services which have been instrumental in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, administering influenza immunization campaigns, and providing patient care during extreme weather events.
- \$45 million to implement primary care networks and bring additional traditional wellness providers closer to Indigenous communities, which will provide culturally safe care for these populations. Funding supports the operations of up to 15 First Nations Primary Health Care Centres. These centres will improve access to primary care for Indigenous Peoples and attachment to a team of care providers supporting both western and Indigenous health and wellness practices.

Budget 2022 provides \$303 million in funding over the next three years to continue a strategy to support timely surgeries and diagnostic imaging. Additional dedicated funding will continue this progress and help to address increased wait lists resulting from postponed surgeries due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the province's growing and aging population.

The COVID-19 pandemic and recent extreme weather events have demonstrated the need for additional resources for the ambulance system's emergency dispatchers and responders. The Province is providing \$148 million over the fiscal plan period to continue to implement the *BC Emergency Health Services Action Plan*. This provides funding to reduce call wait times and emergency response times by increasing the number of paramedics and dispatchers to respond to emergencies throughout the province.

Government is committed to providing people in acute care facilities with more consistent, safe, and stable patient care. *Budget 2022* provides \$231 million over the next three years to bring thousands of service and support service workers back to working directly for health authorities after 20 years of contracting this work through private companies. This will improve the ability to recruit workers, while improving wages and benefits, working conditions, job security and stability for over 2,900 workers — a large majority of whom are racialized women — that patients count on daily.

Chart 1.1.1 Investments in People’s Health and Mental Health*



* Funding for the Ministry of Health. Does not include time-limited funding initiatives related to pandemic response and economic recovery.

Investing in Mental Health and Responding to the Overdose Crisis

This past year has been very difficult for people in British Columbia. People have endured two public health emergencies — the pandemic and the opioid crisis — as well as floods, wildfires and heat waves. These devastating events have taken a toll on individual and collective mental health.

Since *Budget 2017 Update*, government has prioritized expanding mental health and addictions services throughout the province. *Budget 2022* provides \$10 million across three years to the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions for staffing to continue advancing the expansion of services, including support services for the complex care housing initiative discussed on page 12. This will bring the incremental annual funding for mental health and addictions services since the *Budget 2017 Update* to more than \$375 million.

Supports for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

The Province is implementing a collaborative cross-government approach to focus on the root causes of homelessness. The approach includes both preventing homelessness from occurring and responding quickly to assist people experiencing homelessness to become stably housed. Government is investing more than \$633 million over the fiscal plan period towards providing services and supports for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This builds on previous investments and begins implementation of the new, more coordinated approach which recognizes the importance of consistent, accessible, and integrated services.

Supporting Youth at Risk of Homelessness

There is clear evidence that youth who have interacted with the government care system are more likely to experience homelessness relative to their peers, with almost 50 per cent of former youth in care experiencing homelessness at some point in their lives. *Budget 2022* provides \$35 million over the next three years to change this situation by supporting these youth beyond their 19th birthday to decrease their risk of becoming homeless. This funding will expand upon the supports available to young adults as they age out of the government care system. Beginning in 2022/23, temporary housing and support arrangements that had been provided in 2020 will be made permanent and new rent supplements will be introduced for program participants. Over the course of 2023/24 and 2024/25, dedicated provincial funding grows to facilitate expanded income supports and enhancements to the Agreement with Young Adults program to include counselling, medical benefits and expanded life-skills programming. Funding will also support new Youth Transitions navigators who will assist up to 8,830 youth up to their 27th birthday. Navigators will help successfully transition these youth from government care by facilitating access to this better-designed continuum of services.

Expanded Response to Support People Experiencing Homelessness

Budget 2022 provides \$170 million to begin implementation of enhanced and expanded responses to homelessness. In partnership with the Government of Canada, *Budget 2022* includes a program offering rent supplements of up to \$600 per month to help people access market housing. By 2024/25, more than 3,000 clients will be supported through this program, providing additional housing options to build on existing and ongoing government investments in supportive housing. Recipients of rent supplements and those in supportive housing will be provided an integrated range of provincial supports through partnerships with community organizations. These will include supports to address physical health, mental wellness, substance use, personal care, and food security in a culturally safe, gender and trauma-informed environment.

Funding of \$4 million is included for BC Housing to provide supports for individuals experiencing homelessness at encampments around the province. These supports include site management, engagement, and support for food, sanitation, storage, and the safety of those living in the encampments, while reducing the impact on people in surrounding communities. In addition, the Province will provide funding to support the 2023 provincial homelessness count, and research to identify the unique needs of women experiencing homelessness including: Indigenous women, women of colour, transgender women, and women who are homeless with children. The response will also double the number of community integration specialists throughout the province to help individuals navigate government programs and supports.

Complex Care Housing

In January 2022, the Province launched a first-of-its-kind complex-care housing program. Complex care housing goes beyond the current housing model. It is a ground-breaking approach to address the needs of people who often have overlapping mental-health challenges, substance-use issues, trauma and acquired brain injuries, and who often end up facing the most significant housing barriers. This program will provide an enhanced level of integrated health and social supports to serve people where they live.

Budget 2022 builds on this initial investment by providing \$164 million for at least 20 additional sites across B.C. with plans underway to support approximately 500 individuals. Services will be health-focused and will seek to meet the individual needs of participants, ranging from intensive supportive housing, interim housing for those transitioning out of hospitals or correctional facilities, and high-intensity housing for those with the most complex needs.

Continued Response to COVID-19 for People Experiencing Homelessness

At the outset of the pandemic, some of the province's most vulnerable residents risked being without housing, shelter and other living arrangements as a result of necessary provincial health orders related to physical distancing. Government responded by leasing and purchasing over 3,000 spaces at hotels, motels, and community centres to provide alternative shelter for these individuals in need.

Budget 2022 allocates \$264 million over the next three years to continue housing arrangements for these residents as they are transitioned to permanent housing. This includes more than \$63 million in capital funding and \$50 million in operating funding over the next three years to acquire and implement permanent housing solutions for a portion of those now temporarily housed. It also includes \$150 million in Pandemic Recovery Contingencies to continue to extend the temporary spaces for remaining individuals while permanent housing options become available and maintains support, safety, and outreach services for those who will continue to be housed in temporary arrangements.

Table 1.2.1 Support for Individuals Experiencing or At Risk of Homelessness

(\$ millions)	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Youth Transitions Program	5	10	20	35
Homelessness Supports	94	37	39	170
Complex Care Housing	55	54	54	164
Permanent Housing Plan (COVID-19)	230*	17	17	264
Total	384	119	130	633

Note: Table may not sum due to rounding

*Includes Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies allocation

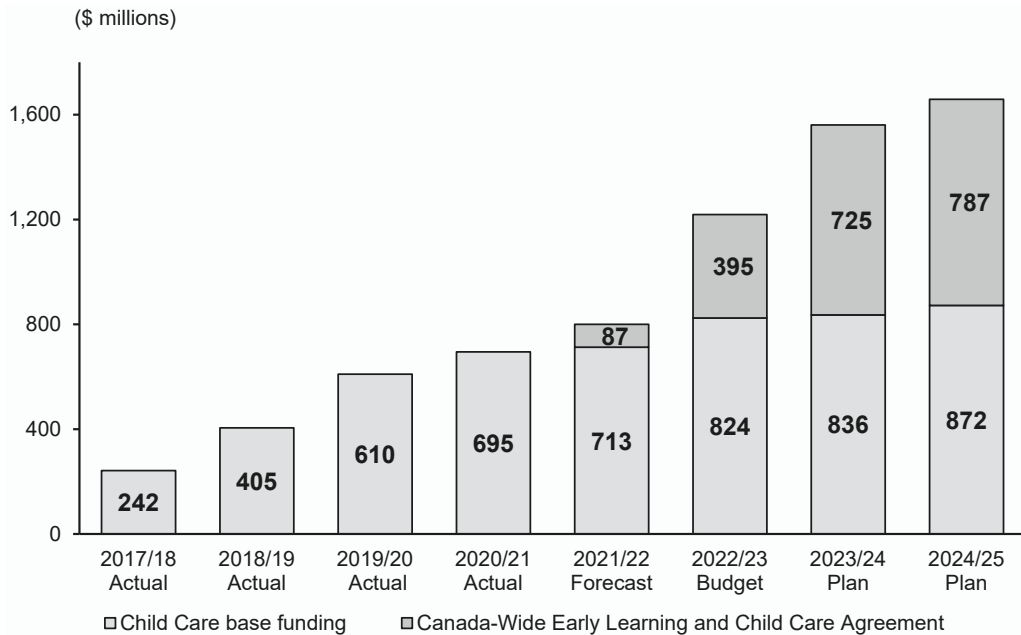
Affordable, Accessible, and High-Quality Child Care

Since launching the ChildCareBC plan in *Budget 2018*, government has invested over \$2.4 billion toward building affordable, accessible, and high-quality child care services to ensure that more people – especially women - can participate in the workforce.

In 2021, B.C. signed a historic agreement with the Government of Canada that will deliver more than \$3.2 billion over five years to build on the progress made under ChildCareBC. This complements the Province's plan and accelerates improved access to quality, affordable, flexible, and inclusive child care services. By the end of 2022, British Columbians will see a 50 per cent reduction in average parent fees, resulting in fees of approximately \$20 per day on average, for children under the age of six in licensed child care.

Budget 2022 invests \$284 million more in provincial funding for child care services over the fiscal plan. This includes over \$118 million to reduce parent fees for preschool and before- and after-school care to be more consistent with the fee reduction under the federal-provincial agreement. These fee reductions will be in place for the beginning of the 2023/24 school year and will benefit over 50,000 children and their families. These investments, including those under the federal-provincial agreement, are displayed on Chart 1.1.2.

Chart 1.1.2 Child Care Services*



* Does not include time-limited funding initiatives related to pandemic response and economic recovery.

The goal of ChildCareBC is to ensure that child care services are available for anyone who wants or needs them. This goal will be achieved through child care facilities built to a standard for quality, accessibility and inclusivity, and to ensure long-lasting infrastructure investments. To date, more than 26,000 spaces have been funded and announced through provincial investments. The new shared agreement with the federal government will lead to the creation of 30,000 new licensed child care spaces within five years, and 40,000 spaces within seven years. *Budget 2022* further builds on these investments and includes \$33 million to create more before- and after-school spaces, and more than \$11 million to enable an increase in the number of school districts providing the Seamless Day program from 24 to 44. Building on *Budget 2021* investments, \$11 million is also provided to support the Aboriginal Head Start program and engagement, community planning, and capacity building with Indigenous stakeholders.

Budget 2022 invests \$80 million to continue to ensure that the workforce behind child care is highly trained and fairly compensated. This includes expanding the wage enhancement program for certified early childhood educators who spend under 50 per cent of their time in direct child care functions but are still working within child care services. To keep up with the pace of new space creation, *Budget 2022* provides \$7 million for more licensing officers to ensure that more child care facilities can be permitted to open once they are complete. In addition, *Budget 2022* invests \$8 million to expand the dual credit program to 150 students and to create 130 more training seats in

post-secondary institutions. This will increase the number of early childhood educators that are trained to meet the needs of the growing sector. An additional \$16 million is devoted to several additional targeted measures to improve program delivery and to support the integration of child care into the broader learning environment.

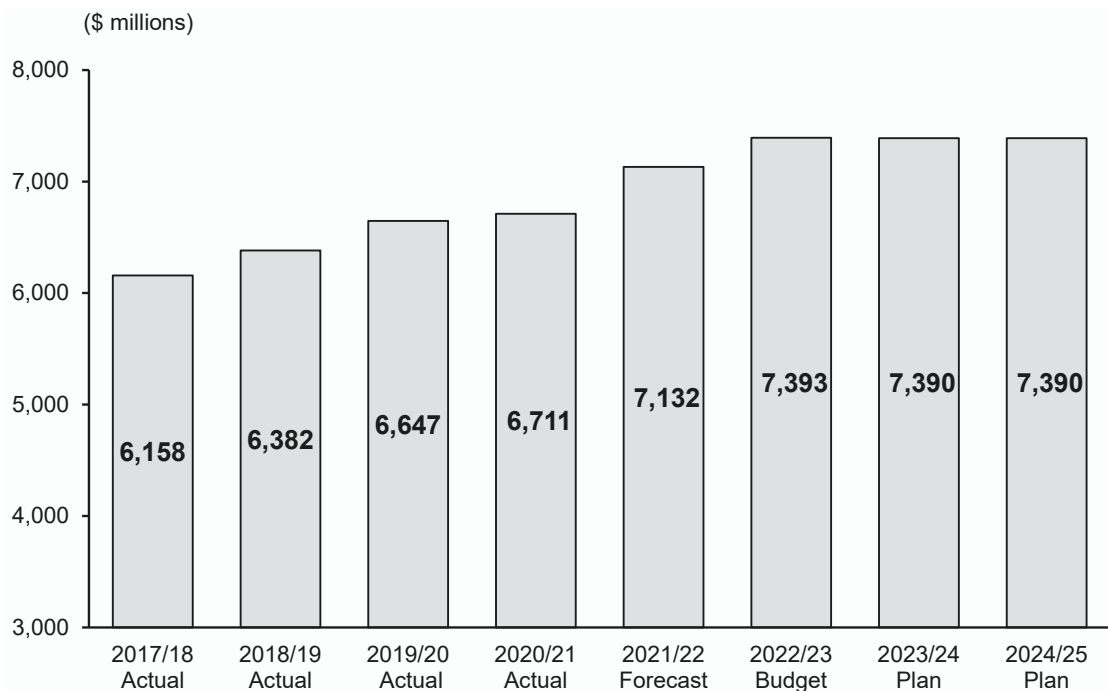
Finally, starting next fiscal year, the delivery of child care programs will be moved from the Ministry of Children and Family Development to be administered within the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Putting People First

Investing in K-12 Education

Budget 2022 invests more than \$664 million over the fiscal plan to respond to growing K-12 enrolment in British Columbia’s public and independent school systems. This funding will help students acquire the foundations that support a strong economy into the future. It will also continue supplements to school districts for children and youth in care, Indigenous learners, rural school districts, and students with support needs. This funding includes \$105 million for the Classroom Enhancement Fund which supports nearly 4,500 teachers, including over 700 special education teachers, and more than 200 teacher psychologists and counsellors. These investments will bring the total annual funding for K-12 education to over \$7.3 billion by 2024/25 as indicated in Chart 1.1.3. In addition, the Province’s capital plan includes \$3.1 billion over the next three years to build new schools to respond to enrolment growth, and to maintain and seismically upgrade schools throughout the province. This is further discussed on page 64.

Chart 1.1.3 Investing in K-12 Education*



* Does not include time-limited funding initiatives related to pandemic response and economic recovery.

Improving the Lives of Children and Youth

Budget 2022 provides more than \$259 million across the fiscal plan period to improve the lives of children and youth throughout the province. More than \$87 million of this funding is dedicated to support children and youth in ministry care or in the care of a family member. Government continues to implement its strategy of reducing the number of children in care and keeping families together through the promotion of adoption services, family reunification arrangements, and provision of other custody options. Incremental funding will ensure the continued care and support for more than 10,000 children and youth in government care, or in alternatives to care. Funding will also support the Devices for Youth in Care program, which provides youth in care access to a smartphone to help caregivers, who otherwise would be responsible for this cost, enhance communication and safety.

Funding includes more than \$172 million over the fiscal plan for ongoing assistance for children and youth with support needs, and for the transition to a more responsive, flexible, and needs-based system for children, youth, and their families. Of this, \$58 million is dedicated to increases in anticipated demand growth costs for children and youth with support needs. Funding of \$114 million is provided to begin the transition of services to a needs-based system throughout the province and, beginning on April 1, 2022, to fully cover the cost of essential medical equipment and supplies, such as wheelchairs. This transition of services begins with the establishment of early implementation in two regions of the province in 2023. These will offer accessible and inclusive services through a community agency to all families, regardless of whether they have a diagnosis, based on their child or youth's unique needs. Consultation will continue with families, service providers and Indigenous leaders and rights holders to ensure a smooth transition for all families. Findings from the early implementation will inform a full provincial roll-out in 2024.

Supporting Vulnerable British Columbians

From the outset of the pandemic, the Province has provided the most vulnerable British Columbians with income and disability financial assistance and other resources to access medical services, support their children to start the school year, and access transportation, while navigating the challenges of COVID-19. *Budget 2022* provides \$36 million over the fiscal plan period to provide for anticipated growth in demand and ensure that these financial supports remain strong in uncertain times. This funding builds on the historic investments made as part of *TogetherBC*, B.C.'s first poverty reduction strategy. These investments have provided: \$325 per month in total increases to income and disability assistance rates since 2017; a \$50 monthly increase to the Senior's Supplement benefiting over 80,000 seniors; and other family supports like the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, the Affordable Child Care Benefit, and the B.C. Child Opportunity Benefit.

Budget 2022 provides more than \$3 million in new funding over the fiscal plan period to support greater accessibility of services throughout the province. In June 2021, British Columbia passed the *Accessible British Columbia Act*. This legislation commits to the development of an accessibility plan and regulations, to build a tool to provide feedback to government, and to establish a Provincial Accessibility Committee to support the government in these actions.

Almost \$49 million across the next three years is dedicated to Community Living BC, which provides critical services and supports to approximately 25,000 adults with developmental disabilities and their families. This includes funding for residential and employment supports, initiatives to develop skills so that participants can be more involved with their communities, and respite supports to allow families and caregivers the opportunity to rest and recharge. Maintaining the quality of life for all British Columbians is a government priority, including adults with developmental disabilities who are in home-sharing arrangements with Community Living BC. *Budget 2022* provides funding to improve monitoring of home-sharing providers and provide issues management, critical response, and ensure the quality of services that they provide.

A Responsive Justice System

Budget 2022 provides more than \$46 million over the fiscal plan period to support timely access to justice services, alleviate wait time to trials, and help victims and their families resolve disputes more quickly. An additional \$12 million is provided to continue the digitization of justice services that were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, including online traffic court, virtual bail, and a virtual Indigenous Justice Centre. The expansion of these services has reduced court backlogs, saved residents of rural and remote communities extensive travel time, and helped to build a more responsive justice system.

Keeping British Columbians Safe

Budget 2022 allocates \$233 million over the fiscal plan period to fund public safety initiatives and negotiated wage enhancements for Royal Canadian Mounted Police to continue public safety measures, especially in rural and remote regions of the province. This includes funding to make B.C.'s communities safer, and to assist youth by giving them tools to avoid a life of gang and drug violence. Government is providing \$5 million of dedicated funding over three years for the Expect Respect and a Safe Education, and Gang Intervention and Exiting Programs. These programs have been successful in their intent to divert youth from gang-associated activities through the education system, and to support youth to voluntarily exit from gangs.

Incremental funding totaling \$22 million over three years is budgeted to provide services to victims of sexual assault and exploitation. Through this allocation, the Province will create dedicated and ongoing funding to support approximately 50 service centres that provide crisis response, counselling, preventative medication, forensic exams, mechanisms to report to the police, and child protection services.

More than \$12 million is provided to increase capacity and reduce backlogs in the BC Coroners Service stemming from pressures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the overdose crisis, and recent climate-related events. This funding will increase the number of annual autopsies performed by 250 per year, increase the number of coroner investigations by 2,850 per year, and will provide staff support to address call volumes that bring information and closure to the families and communities that are impacted by cases brought to the BC Coroners Service.

Building a Stronger Economy for Everyone

Government's Economic Plan

In February 2022, government released an economic plan with a vision for B.C.'s economic future: an inclusive, sustainable, and innovative economy that works for everyone. *StrongerBC: A Plan for Today, a Vision for Tomorrow* charts the path to meeting two big goals — inclusive growth and clean growth — to build a strong economy that works for more people and establishes sustainability as the foundation for the economy of tomorrow.

Inclusive growth means investing in actions that expand economic opportunity for all British Columbians, such as the development of a workforce readiness plan and closing the digital divide. New priorities include the development of the *Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow*, a workforce readiness plan that will address the challenge of filling more than one million job openings in B.C. over the next ten years. More information on *Budget 2022* investments in skills and job training can be found on page 22. The pandemic has highlighted how important internet connectivity is to access job training, to connect families, and to foster economic growth. The plan also highlights the need to provide more communities with high-speed internet to connect to the digital economy. *Budget 2022* investments in connectivity are further highlighted on page 20.

Clean growth means achieving government's climate commitments through innovative economic growth, leveraging B.C.'s position as a leader in environmental and social responsibility, and the creation of high-value, sustainable resource jobs. Further discussion on government's *Budget 2022* investments for CleanBC can be found on page 24.

Budget 2022 provides an allocation of \$50 million over the fiscal plan to deliver additional, targeted strategies and investments to support both clean and inclusive growth. Funding will help grow B.C.'s life sciences, manufacturing and agricultural sectors, and support reconciliation through economic development. *Budget 2022* also provides funding to support ongoing tracking and reporting on the progress of the plan's intended outcomes. The funding will include support for an Integrated Marketplace to speed up the adoption of made-in-B.C. clean technologies and establishing a world leading standard for Environmental, Social and Governance reporting. In addition, the Province has provided funding of \$195 million in 2021/22 to support B.C.'s growing life sciences sector, which is further highlighted on page 21.

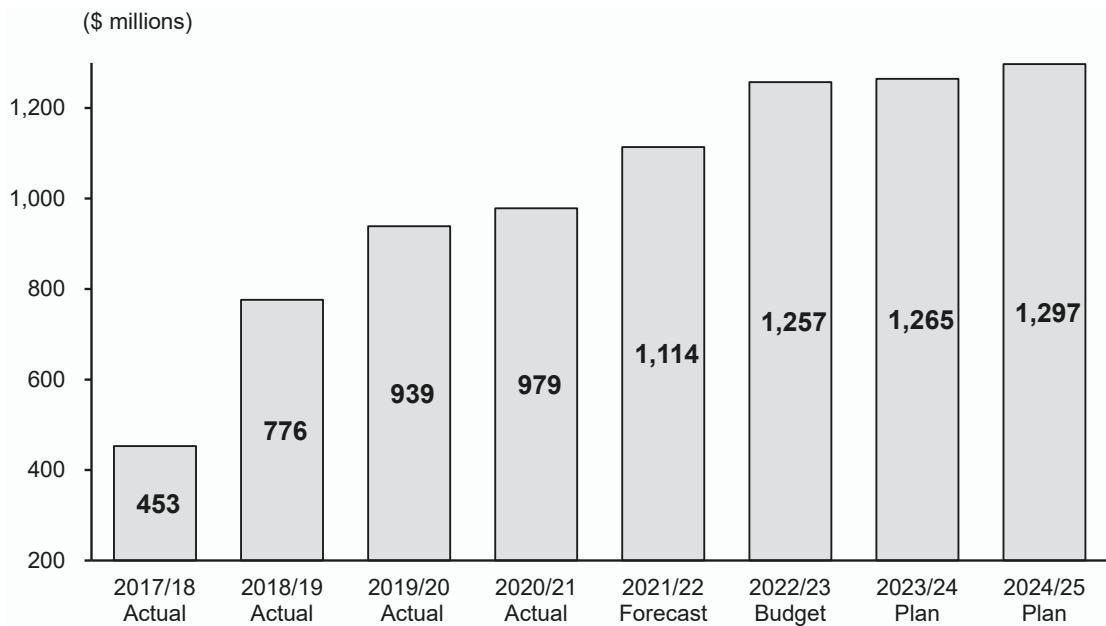
Addressing the Housing Challenge

In addition to funding for the Province's plan to combat homelessness in British Columbia, *Budget 2022* builds on investments made in *Budget 2021* with an additional \$166 million across the fiscal plan period to continue and accelerate progress towards building 114,000 affordable housing units in British Columbia over 10 years. This brings the level of housing investments and homelessness supports to over \$1.2 billion per year by 2024/25 as indicated in Chart 1.1.4. More than 32,000 new homes have been completed or are underway since Homes for BC was launched in *Budget 2018*.

This includes funding for Building BC, a suite of programs that have increased permanent supportive housing for those experiencing homelessness, housing for women and children fleeing abuse, housing for Indigenous People, and mixed-income rental housing for families and individuals. As a component of the \$166 million, *Budget 2022* accelerates funding of \$100 million into 2022/23 for Building BC’s Community Housing Fund, which will support the development of mixed-income rental housing for low-income families and seniors sooner than originally planned.

Budget 2021 provided \$2 billion in new low-interest financing for HousingHub, which works with community, government, non-profit and private sector partners to create new affordable rental housing and homeownership options for middle-income British Columbians. This new funding has led to a significant increase in participation in the program, with 4,200 units now underway or completed under HousingHub. To respond to the heightened interest, *Budget 2022* provides \$8 million of funding to support HousingHub’s project development capacity.

Chart 1.1.4 Investments in Housing Affordability and Homelessness Supports*



* Does not include time-limited funding initiatives related to pandemic response and economic recovery.

Connecting Communities

Enhancing Digital Connectivity

Budget 2022 provides more than \$289 million in new funding over the next five years to aggressively accelerate the connection of homes to high-speed internet and further close the digital divide. Through *Budget 2022* investments more than 280 rural, remote and Indigenous communities will be connected to high-speed internet, improving access to education and health care, diversifying their economies, and expanding the ability for local businesses to reach the international marketplace. Coupled with previous investments of \$220 million since 2017, this funding will bring the total provincial spending to expand connectivity to over \$509 million by 2026/27.

Moving British Columbians and Goods

Recent supply interruptions have reinforced how critical infrastructure and transportation services are to ensuring the movement of people and goods. Beyond capital funding that will invest in building and strengthening critical transportation infrastructure around the province as outlined on page 69, *Budget 2022* provides more than \$78 million across the fiscal plan to keep British Columbians moving. An allocation of \$30 million is provided to keep provincial highways and roads in good repair and in safe conditions for the traveling public — including road and bridge maintenance, electrical maintenance on highways and pavement markings. Funding of \$48 million over three years is provided to BC Transit and BC Ferries services, ensuring that more than 1.8 million British Columbians have access to local and regional transit services in over 130 communities. The Province has also responded with funding to address the severe damage to the provincial highway network that occurred during the November 2021 storms, to ensure that people and goods continue to move as quickly as possible. This is further discussed on page 31.

Transitioning to a Sustainable Economy

Old Growth Strategic Review

In November 2021, the Province announced its intention to work in partnership with First Nations to defer the harvest of ancient, rare and priority large stands of old growth within 2.6 million hectares of B.C.'s most at-risk old-growth forests. Logging deferrals were established to prevent irreversible biodiversity loss while First Nations, the Province, and industry develop a new approach to sustainable forest management that prioritizes ecosystem health and community prosperity throughout British Columbia.

Budget 2022 provides more than \$185 million over the next three years to bring forth coordinated and comprehensive supports to help forest workers and contractors, industry, communities, and First Nations to adapt and respond to the impacts of deferrals. This includes connecting workers with short-term employment opportunities, and education and skills training for community members. It also includes funding of partnerships with businesses and communities to assist them through the transition to create jobs through diversified economies and infrastructure projects. Funding will also support the Bridging to Retirement program, which will support eligible forestry workers and contractors 55 years or older to transition to retirement.

Sustainable Lands, Water and Resource Management

The stewardship of British Columbia's land and marine environments has become increasingly important and complex. These environments are impacted by climate change, increased demands to access natural resources and the need to ensure British Columbia's biodiversity is well managed. *Budget 2022* provides over \$44 million in new funding to support the creation of the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and support government's goals of economic activity, environmental sustainability, and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. The new ministry will incorporate programs that are currently housed in other ministries, including: land use policy and planning; fisheries and coastal policy and planning; and aquatic and terrestrial habitat management. In addition, the ministry will have a leadership role working with Indigenous governments and organizations to develop a new vision and policies for land, water and resource management to bring government's natural resource policy framework in line with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

Advancing Mining Opportunities

British Columbia's mining sector can play a critical role supporting the transition to a low-carbon future both locally and globally. Metals and minerals found within B.C. are used to create green technology, such as electric vehicles and wind turbines, and B.C. mining operations stand out as having a lower greenhouse gas intensity than most global competitors. In addition, B.C.'s mining sector saw near record levels of investment in mineral exploration in 2021, totalling nearly \$700 million. *Budget 2022* provides \$18 million over the next three years to continue the Regulatory Excellence in Mining strategy and support robust and efficient decision-making processes across regulatory agencies. This funding will help to attract investment in mining and create jobs, advance reconciliation, and enhance environmental outcomes in support of a safe and thriving mining sector in British Columbia.

Investing in Life Sciences Research

The province's life sciences sector is made up of more than 2,000 companies, employing 18,000 British Columbians and creating medical innovations and research that improve health care delivery around the world. The pandemic has displayed the importance of a thriving life sciences sector. In 2021/22, government is investing in further developing and providing training opportunities in B.C.'s expanding life sciences sector through \$195 million in grant funding to Genome BC and Michael Smith Health Research BC. This funding represents a significant increase in the Province's investments in these organizations and will enable them to increase funding provided for researchers and research projects in B.C.

Grant funding will provide significant benefit to workforce readiness and job creation in B.C. Since its inception in 2000, Genome BC has generated over \$1.2 billion of investments in more than 450 B.C.-based research and innovation projects, brought in more than \$900 million in funding to B.C. researchers, and created over 32,000 jobs in the province. Funding provided to Genome BC will enable it to invest in research projects, supporting researchers in applying genomics to new and improved products, services and commercial opportunities.

Michael Smith Health Research BC has a mandate to develop, retain and attract people whose research improves the health of British Columbians, address health system priorities, create jobs, and add to the knowledge economy. Researchers funded by the organization leverage government investments by attracting additional funding from both public and private organizations, resulting in further job creation and economic benefits. In 2020/21, researchers received eight times the value of their award in additional research funding, totalling \$730,000 per scholar.

Through the research it funds, Michael Smith Health Research BC trains the next generation of health researchers, many of whom stay in B.C. Funding provided to the organization will enable it to provide grants to researchers to develop their talent, advance patient-orientated research and address B.C.-specific health and health system priorities.

Table 1.2.2 Investments for a Strong Economy

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Stronger BC Economic Plan	-	11	21	21	54
Addressing the Housing Challenge	-	111	12	43	166
Enhancing Digital Connectivity*	-	5	7	91	104
Moving British Columbians and Goods	-	26	26	26	78
Old Growth Supports	-	112	44	31	185
Land, Water and Resource Stewardship	-	10	17	17	44
Advancing Mining Opportunities	-	8	8	2	18
Life Sciences Research	195	-	-	-	195
Job Training and Skills Development	-	39	14	14	67
Declaration Act Secretariat	-	4	4	4	12
Total	195	326	154	250	925

Table may not sum due to rounding. Table includes Contingencies allocations.

*Funding to enhance digital connectivity builds on \$40 million of new funding in *Budget 2021*, and includes funding commitments to 2026/27. The total *Budget 2022* investment is \$289 million through 2026/27.

Building the Skills for Tomorrow's Economy

Strengthening B.C.'s Training System

The pandemic has demonstrated the importance of a diverse workforce supply to meet the challenges caused by skills shortages and business volatility, and to continue to ensure a strong and sustainable recovery. The BC Labour Market Outlook forecasts that B.C.'s economy will be strong over the next decade, with over one million job openings forecasted by 2031. Almost 80 per cent of these jobs are in high-growth sectors such as health care and technology and will require post-secondary education or training.

Since 2017, government has been actively investing in new post-secondary education and skills training initiatives and has created nearly 2,900 new technology student spaces at public post-secondary institutions, provided new funding for hiring and training critical health care workers, expanded access to short-term education and skills training, and provided additional funding for Indigenous skills training.

Government is now developing a comprehensive workforce readiness plan titled *Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow*, to proactively address both systemic and emerging workforce challenges, such as shifting demographics and climate adaptation. This strategy will build upon StrongerBC investments of \$48 million in 2020/21 and *Budget 2021* investments of \$32 million in 2021/22 that have provided short-term skills training for unemployed or precariously employed people, and Indigenous-led training with an aim to prepare participants for long-term jobs in tomorrow's economy.

An early component of the action plan is the inclusion of \$25 million in 2022/23 as part of *Budget 2022* to continue to expand training for health care assistants to address critical staffing shortages in the long-term care, assisted living and home care sectors. This builds on previous investments of \$75 million in *Budget 2021* and will enable the Province to create 2,000 post-secondary seats for health care assistants in 2022/23, which will enable the Province to hire more than 5,000 new health care assistants by 2022/23. In addition, the Province's capital plan includes \$4.3 billion over the next three years for capital investments at post-secondary institutions. This is further discussed on page 66.

An additional \$21 million of funding is provided over the next three years to meet the growing demand for adult education through the Graduated Adult Program. In September 2017, government announced the restoration of tuition-free Academic Upgrading and Literacy Foundations that provides for pre-post-secondary programs designed to improve learners' literacy, numeracy, language, and academic skills. This enables learners to continue into post-secondary education and find new or better employment.

Skilled Trades Certification

In 2021, government introduced a Skilled Trades Certification policy that will initially apply to 10 electrical, mechanical, and automotive trades. This policy will require tradespeople to be either a certified journeyman or a registered apprentice to practice their trade. Uncertified workers are often paid less and have lower rates of employment stability and mobility. This policy will raise skill levels in the trades to enhance productivity, increase the prestige of the trades to attract workers, and provide more opportunities for trades workers to benefit from post-secondary training.

To support these goals, government is investing \$21 million over three years to create trades training seats, expand targeted programs and services to support uncertified workers to become apprentices or obtain certifications, and engage in monitoring and compliance activities at worksites. Funding will be provided to the Industry Training Authority.

Community Benefits Agreements

Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) allow government to leverage record levels of capital project investments in transportation, post-secondary, and health care projects to deliver community benefits in the form of training the next generation of skilled workers, increase opportunities for locals and underrepresented groups, and expand the construction workforce. This encourages the adoption of trades skills by a broader cross section of British Columbians and helps address the anticipated skilled labour needs of the construction sector.

CBAs provide priority hiring to reduce inequality by increasing employment for women, Indigenous Peoples, young people, locals and other underrepresented groups. They also increase apprenticeship opportunities, offer apprentices a clearer path to Red Seal trades certification, and make the industry more attractive to new entrants by improving the workplace environment. The Respectful Oversight Initiative is a combination of diversity and inclusion education and training, and workplace cultural awareness. This initiative supports the retention of new entrants to the construction workforce. BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. (a provincial Crown corporation) has been successful in attracting individuals who have not previously participated in the construction sector, helping to

grow the province's workforce. There are currently 12 approved projects using the CBA, representing \$6.8 billion in capital investment. More information on CBAs can be found in the topic box on page 35.

Working Together Towards Reconciliation

A stronger British Columbia requires moving forward together through true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. The Province passed the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act)* into law in November 2019. The Act sets a framework for reconciliation in B.C. and to ensure the human rights of Indigenous Peoples are respected. The legislation also sets out a requirement to align B.C.'s laws with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and enables new approaches to decision-making that will lead to more predictability and transparency in work done together.

Budget 2022 provides \$12 million over the next three years to create and support the work of the Declaration Act Secretariat. The Secretariat will provide guidance on consultation and consistency of laws with the *Declaration Act*, help to inform government's legislative agenda, and engage with Indigenous Peoples on ways to ensure that the *Declaration Act* is consistently applied. This funding is in addition to the \$77 million in funding provided in *Budget 2021* to support the implementation of the *Declaration Act*, engagement on legislation, negotiation capacity, and initiatives to increase Indigenous participation in land and resource activities within Indigenous territories.

Building a Stronger Environment for Our Future

CleanBC

Government reaffirmed its role as a global leader in climate action with the launch of the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030. *Budget 2022* builds on \$2.3 billion allocated to date for CleanBC and provides over \$1 billion in new funding to continue existing CleanBC measures and implement new initiatives identified in the Roadmap. This includes over \$651 million in new operating funding to support clean transportation, energy efficient buildings and communities, and support industry to manage the transition to a low-carbon economy. It also includes funding to support the development and enhancement of regulatory measures such as the Low Carbon Fuel Standard and a cap on natural gas emissions from utilities. These are critical to supporting the province in meeting its emission targets.

Budget 2022 includes funding for a new Clean Transportation Action Plan that will establish future actions to reduce transportation emissions, such as mode shifting and active transportation. Other initiatives from the Roadmap that are funded through the budget include developing the highest efficiency standards for space and water heating, a new Local Government Climate Action Program, and measures to reduce emissions in industry such as methane and make new industrial operations 'net zero ready'. These are further outlined below.

Table 1.2.3 Investments for CleanBC (including Contingencies Allocations)

(\$ millions)	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
New Investments for CleanBC				
Low Carbon Energy	4	3	3	9
Clean Transportation	35	56	34	125
Energy Efficient Buildings	11	24	11	46
Communities and Land Based Activities	39	37	37	113
Clean Industry	6	7	298	310
Circular Economy	11	1	1	13
Climate Strategy Resourcing and Outreach	4	4	1	9
Cleantech Innovation	25	-	-	25
Subtotal	135	131	385	651
Other Investments				
Continuation of Climate Action Tax Credit	-	-	120	120
Light-Duty ZEV Rebates Funded by				
Low Carbon Fuel Standard Credits	67	88	94	249
Clean Buildings Tax Credit	2	20	20	42
Equity Tax Credit for Clean Technology Investments	3	3	3	9
Expansion of Hydrogen Motor Fuel Exemption	-	1	1	2
PST Exemption for Used ZEVs	21	29	38	88
Increase Passenger Vehicle Surtax Threshold for ZEVs	12	15	20	47
PST Exemption for Heat Pumps	8	8	8	24
Subtotal	113	164	304	581
Total	248	295	689	1,232

Notes: Table may not sum due to rounding

These investments are in addition to the Province's other climate-related spending that are designed to support the fight against climate change, including public transit projects such as investments in Vancouver's Broadway Subway, energy efficiency spending on public sector buildings, the Innovative Clean Energy Fund and the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund. Additional funding may be available through BC Hydro programs, including its Electrification Plan, subject to approval by the British Columbia Utilities Commission.

Low Carbon Energy

Budget 2022 provides \$9 million over three years to develop policies and regulations to expand the Low Carbon Fuel Standard and to implement a new emissions cap on natural gas utilities — two of the most impactful measures in reducing emissions and helping B.C. meet its legislated emissions reduction requirements.

Cleaner Transportation

Government is committing \$125 million over three years to continue investments in clean transportation. This includes \$79 million to continue Go Electric programming to provide rebates for electric vehicle charging systems, fund hydrogen refueling infrastructure, and support commercial vehicle pilot projects. There is also \$7 million provided over the fiscal plan to support the development of a Clean Transportation Action Plan, which will detail specific actions to reduce emissions in the transportation sector.

Additionally, *Budget 2022* transitions the funding of Go Electric light-duty vehicle rebates to BC Hydro. Rebates will be funded by revenues BC Hydro generates from selling Low Carbon Fuel Standard credits, as it provides clean hydroelectricity as a transportation fuel. Funding available each year may differ as credit prices are determined within the market but are estimated at \$249 million over three years.

Grant funding of \$30 million over the fiscal plan will support local governments to improve active transportation infrastructure, such as bike lanes and multi-use pathways. *Budget 2022* also provides \$5 million over two years to continue the Heavy-Duty Vehicle Efficiency Program, which partners with industry to educate drivers and install fuel efficiency measures in heavy-duty vehicles.

Energy Efficient Buildings

Budget 2022 invests \$46 million to support the adoption of energy efficiency measures in buildings. Over three years, \$43 million is provided to continue energy efficiency incentives and market supports under the CleanBC Better Homes, Better Buildings program — this includes \$16 million over three years to provide new top-up incentives, such as heat pump incentives for rural and northern homeowners. Additionally, \$3 million is provided over three years to develop the highest efficiency standards for space and water heating, and a new home energy rating system to support home buyers identify the energy efficiency of homes.

Clean Industry

Budget 2022 provides \$310 million to support the decarbonization of industry, including funding to identify ways to reduce methane emissions; develop a province-wide approach to carbon capture, utilization, and storage; and assist emission-intensive and trade-exposed industry to remain competitive while preparing for the requirements to be net zero by 2050. This funding also provides \$174 million in 2024/25 to continue the CleanBC Program for Industry, which directs a portion of the carbon taxes paid by industry into two streams:

1. **The CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program:** provides incentives to large regulated industrial operations upon reducing emissions to world-leading benchmark levels; and
2. **The CleanBC Industry Fund:** finances emissions reduction projects identified by industry.

Budget 2022 provides an additional \$111 million in 2024/25 to enhance the CleanBC Industry Fund to support the further decarbonization of industry. As committed to in the Roadmap, future enhancements to the program will be based on consultations with industry, the Government of Canada, and Indigenous Peoples to redesign the program to align with new federal carbon pricing rules, while continuing to promote a competitive business environment and significant emissions reductions.

Communities and Land Based Activities

Budget 2022 provides \$76 million over three years to establish a new Local Government Climate Action Program that will help local governments take action to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.

Funding of \$22 million over three years is allocated to promote emissions reductions in B.C.'s forests. This includes \$15 million over the fiscal plan to strengthen B.C. forests to improve their ability to sequester carbon, and \$4 million over the fiscal plan to expand the Indigenous Forest Bioeconomy Program to include a new Accelerator Program, which will help participants commercialize and scale-up innovative forest-based products.

In support of agricultural climate action, *Budget 2022* includes \$15 million over three years to support increased intakes under the Beneficial Management Practices program, which supports on-farm upgrades to adopt sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture practices.

Circular Economy

Budget 2022 provides \$13 million to advance a circular economy, including funding to develop a new Circular Economy Strategy that will advance B.C.'s Plastics Action Plan. This includes \$10 million in 2022/23 to recapitalize the CleanBC Plastics Action Fund, originally funded through StrongerBC, which supports the diversion of plastics from landfills and the environment and repurposes them for use as recycled material.

Climate Strategy Resourcing and Outreach

Budget 2022 provides \$9 million over three years to enhance the performance tracking of CleanBC initiatives. This will enhance the Province's ability to report on progress through the annual Climate Change Accountability Report, support public awareness, and increase uptake of CleanBC programs.

Cleantech Innovation

One-time funding of \$25 million is provided in 2022/23 to support clean energy and technology investments and partnership opportunities with the federal government to support CleanBC objectives.

Other Measures

Budget 2022 provides an additional \$120 million to continue the Climate Action Tax Credit in 2024/25, which helps offset the impact of the carbon taxes paid by low to moderate-income individuals and families. B.C. will continue to look at the effects of the carbon tax on household affordability as the federal carbon price requirements increase. In addition, *Budget 2022* includes tax measures that support CleanBC objectives by incentivizing cleaner choices. These include a temporary tax credit for retrofits that improve energy efficiency of multi-unit residential and commercial buildings, the expansion of the exemption of hydrogen fuel from motor fuel tax, and provincial sales tax exemptions for used ZEVs. A PST exemption on heat pumps, paired with an increase to the PST on fossil fuel alternatives to 12 per cent is also included. A description of all tax measures that support CleanBC initiatives begins on page 87.

Protecting People and Communities from Climate-Related Disasters

Responding to Climate Events

The devastating weather events in the past year have highlighted the importance of preparing for and adapting to the changing climate. *Budget 2022* includes over \$1.5 billion in funding over the next three years to support people and communities in responding to and recovering from the November 2021 flooding events. This includes \$400 million in 2022/23 for Emergency Management BC to support people and communities and more than \$1.1 billion earmarked in General Programs Contingencies over the next three years in anticipation of investments that will need to be made to help communities recover. The Province will be working with impacted communities and residents to assess the extent of the damage to critical infrastructure and identify what will be required to increase resilience against future events. This funding is in addition to the \$5 billion allocated by the Government of Canada to help response and recovery efforts in B.C.

In addition, over \$600 million in operating and capital funding is allocated for continuing the response to climate-related disasters, disaster prevention and recovery projects, and to support British Columbians through future emergencies. These are detailed further below. A “Flood Recovery and Response” topic box on page 31 provides more discussion about the *Budget 2022* investments to support communities to prepare for and respond to climate-related disasters.

Essential Foundations for Climate Preparedness and Adaptation

In June 2021, government released a draft Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy to seek public feedback on actions to help prepare British Columbia for the impacts of climate change. *Budget 2022* provides the essential foundations to continue the work of preparing the province for a changing climate, guided by the province’s experience with climate-related disasters over the past year. Funding of \$83 million is provided to expand climate monitoring networks, support Indigenous-led initiatives to build climate adaptation capacity, develop an extreme heat response framework, expand the River Forecast Centre and provincial floodplain mapping program, and build data collection and expertise that are necessary to understand where and how to mitigate climate risks.

This includes \$30 million in 2021/22 to help safeguard B.C.’s watersheds which will further mitigate the impacts of a changing climate on community health, water security, and the economy. An additional \$65 million in capital funding is provided across the fiscal plan period to make improvements to existing road, bridge and culvert infrastructure to improve resilience and reduce the impact of extreme environmental events as part of a ten year commitment. The total ten-year investment for these transportation improvements will be \$295 million.

Protecting Communities from Climate Risks

The Province is making significant changes to protect people and communities from the risks associated with a changing climate. This includes \$90 million in community grants provided in 2021/22 to complete FireSmart initiatives and fuel management activities that will make homes and communities safer from wildfire risk. An allocation of \$120 million provided in 2021/22 gives years of additional support to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund and to support emergency management and preparedness in First Nations communities. Since September 2017, over \$75 million has been provided to Indigenous communities and local governments through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund to support 961 projects for local emergency operations centres, emergency support services, evacuation route planning, and flood risk assessments, among others.

Budget 2022 includes \$145 million over the fiscal plan for the BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC. Funding will move the BC Wildfire Service from its current reactive model of wildfire response to a more proactive approach and allow it to work on all four pillars of emergency management (prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery). This funding will also improve Emergency Management BC's ability to prepare and respond to climate-related events, ensure impacted communities are supported during and after events, improve the public alerting system, and help communities with emergency planning.

Funding of \$98 million over three years is also provided to fund wildfire prevention work and projects and to maintain forest service roads to help the BC Wildfire Service respond to future forest fires. To meet the growing demands on the BC Wildfire Service, more than \$26 million in capital funding will be invested over three years to upgrade the agency's facilities. These investments will increase capacity, address maintenance needs, and equip firebases for future wildfire seasons.

Table 1.2.4 Investments to Support Communities Against Climate Events

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Supports to Communities – Emergency Preparedness	120	-	-	-	120
Supports for Communities – Wildfire Prevention	90	-	-	-	90
Wildfire Prevention Projects and Services	-	52	23	23	98
EMBC and Wildfire Service Resources.....	-	45	50	51	145
Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy	30	13	20	20	83
Climate-Ready Transportation Networks*	-	15	20	30	65
<i>Emergency Program Act</i> – Flooding Recovery	-	400	-	-	400
Contingencies – Flooding Recovery	-	400	500	250	1,150
Total	240	925	613	374	2,152

*Tables may not sum due to rounding.
* Capital Funding*

COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Budget 2022 provides \$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24 to maintain the Pandemic Recovery Contingencies to support ongoing measures and emergent needs related to the pandemic. The Pandemic Recovery Contingencies will be used to continue short-term funding initiatives and for new programs where the demand and costs may fluctuate as the pandemic and related health orders continue to evolve. This includes ongoing support such as the COVID-19 closure relief grant, continued support to the tourism sector, and support for vulnerable populations impacted by the pandemic.

The Pandemic Recovery Contingencies will ensure government remains nimble to support people and business through unanticipated urgent health or targeted recovery measures. Consistent with *Budget 2021*, unallocated funding will be directed to reduce the operating deficit. Notional allocations for 2022/23 Pandemic Recovery Contingencies are shown in Table 1.2.5 below.

Table 1.2.5 Pandemic Recovery Contingencies 2022/23

Initiative	Notional Allocations*
Health COVID-19 Management	\$875 million
Supports for Vulnerable Populations	\$175 million
Tourism Initiative Envelope	\$25 million
Other Recovery Initiatives	\$10 million
Unallocated: available for additional health or recovery measures	\$915 million
Total	\$2.0 billion

* Notional allocations are based on current forecasts, with any changes communicated in Quarterly Reports.

Flood Response and Recovery

In mid-November 2021, two days of heavy rainfall resulted in widespread flooding and mudslides across the province. Nearly 20,000 people were evacuated from towns in southern B.C. with significant damage to highways and other critical infrastructure. On November 17, 2021, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General declared a provincial state of emergency to mitigate the immediate impacts on transportation networks and the movement of essential goods and supplies, and to support the province-wide response and recovery from the widespread damage caused by flooding and landslides in B.C.

The flooding followed other climate-related disasters that occurred including a heat dome and a severe wildfire season resulting in tragic consequences in the Village of Lytton. Those impacted by the 2021 wildfires received temporary lodging, food, clothing and incidentals. Financial assistance was provided to people whose primary residences were placed on evacuation order. Support for the Village of Lytton includes provincial funding to support the local government recovery team, assistance with safe return and re-entry, and Disaster Financial Assistance to facilitate the recovery of public infrastructure. The Province has allocated over \$27 million so far to support Lytton with additional response costs, lost revenue, and operational needs as the community recovers from the wildfire disaster.

These exemplify the impacts of climate change and are expected to increase in frequency over time. In response, governments, communities, businesses and people will need to rebuild in ways that are smarter and more resilient to the impacts of climate change, and take steps to better understand and reduce risks moving forward.

The Government of Canada has committed to providing federal support for the flood recovery and other recent natural disasters in B.C. This financial assistance will help the Province

with the significant costs associated with the emergency response and support recovery of individuals and communities from the impacts of the flooding.

Immediate support in response to the Floods

The Province worked with the Canadian Red Cross to provide immediate support to individuals directly impacted by flooding. This included temporary lodging, food, clothing, and incidentals; specialized services such as emotional support, first aid, and transportation; and financial assistance to people whose primary residences were placed on evacuation orders due to flooding.

As of the third quarter, the Province is expecting to spend over \$500 million on disaster and emergency response this year. This includes funding to support evacuees through the Emergency Support Service program; financial assistance to impacted First Nation and local governments for incremental response costs; and costs associated with immediate repair to critical infrastructure, such as highways and bridges.

The Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia committed to matching donations to the Canadian Red Cross Floods and Extreme Weather Appeal and raised more than \$30 million in donations. This brings the total available to support those people who are impacted to over \$90 million. This will provide for case management and informed recovery support for people impacted by flooding to assist with interim housing, basic needs, mental-health supports and navigation of the recovery process.

Looking ahead

As part of its fiscal update in December 2021, the federal government allocated \$5 billion for its share of flood recovery costs and other recent natural disasters in British Columbia,

such as the 2021 wildfires. This includes the federal costs under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements as well as other federal cost share programs, such as Agri-Recovery. The funding is an initial provision of federal funding and assessing the full costs of rebuilding remains an ongoing process. The Province and Government of Canada, along with Indigenous partners and local partners, will continue to work together to support British Columbians through this crisis and as communities rebuild.

In addition to this funding, *Budget 2022* allocates more than \$1.5 billion over three years to address the Province's ongoing response and recovery efforts. This includes \$400 million for costs under the *Emergency Program Act* to support ongoing disaster response and recovery activities, such as debris removal and clean-up. Funding will also support programs such as Disaster Financial Assistance, which provides local governments, people, businesses, farms and charitable organizations with assistance to recover. Another \$100 million is provided for capital costs related to damage to provincial public sector buildings.

The total cost and necessary supports are not yet known as work to evaluate the damage is ongoing. *Budget 2022* sets aside over \$1.1 billion in Contingencies over the fiscal plan period as a starting point to accommodate anticipated costs and additional supports for people, communities and businesses impacted by the floods. This includes funding for specific programs such as Agri-Recovery — a federal-provincial cost program that helps farmers recover, thereby supporting the province's food security — but it will also support the rebuilding process more generally. This will also include options to supplement existing programs, such as Disaster Financial Assistance, housing supports for communities that need to rebuild, and efforts to modernize emergency management in British Columbia.

Importantly, this funding will support the province in building back better, consistent with the Sendai Disaster Framework, which was adopted by B.C. in October 2018. The Sendai Framework marks a shift from focusing on emergency preparedness and response to recognizing that risk identification and mitigation are key to managing hazards

Table 1 - Increased Funding for Emergency Management

(\$ millions)	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Fire Management			
Existing Funding	136	136	136
<i>Budget 2022</i> increase	58	63	63
Fire Management - new base budget	194	199	199
Emergency Management BC			
Existing Funding	38	38	38
<i>Budget 2022</i> increase	7	7	8
Emergency Management BC - new base budget	45	44	45
Emergency Program Act			
Existing Funding	36	36	36
<i>Budget 2022</i> increase	400	-	-
Emergency Program Act - new base budget	436	36	36

Note: Table may not sum due to rounding

and reducing the impact of events. It aims for substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in life. It aims to safeguard livelihoods, health and the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses and communities. It also calls for all of society to share responsibility for reducing disaster risk. As such, the Province will be focusing on how rebuilding occurs to ensure that British Columbians are better prepared for climate-related disasters in future.

Climate change adaptation and mitigation

Preparing for climate change means improving the Province's ability to anticipate, respond to and recover from climate-related disasters and emergencies, as well as dealing with more gradual changes like water shortages, changes in growing seasons and sea level rise. It involves building the capacity to reduce and manage risks from climate change to protect people, buildings and infrastructure; restore habitat and strengthen ecosystems; maintain community health and wellbeing; and decrease costs associated with climate impacts and ensure B.C.'s economy continues to thrive.

The Province is providing over \$600 million in funding to protect people and communities from climate-related disasters.

Within this, \$83 million is provided in new investments that will help build essential foundations to better plan for climate-related disasters, including flooding, wildfires and extreme heat.

Funding of \$210 million is provided in 2021/22 to support local governments and Indigenous-led emergency management priorities, mitigate risk and prepare for wildfires, flooding, and other emergencies.

- \$90 million to support the FireSmart program and other wildlife measures, contributing to improved community and ecological resiliency; and
- \$120 million to add years of funding to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund and support Indigenous-led emergency management priorities. These will support communities to build more resilient dikes and undertake other risk reduction activities, including significant investments in floodplain mapping.

Table 2 - Supporting Communities to Respond and Adapt to Climate Events

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Flood Response and Recovery					
<i>Emergency Program Act – Flooding Recovery</i>	-	400	-	-	400
Contingencies – Flooding Recovery	-	400	500	250	1,150
Total Flood Response and Recovery	-	800	500	250	1,550
Climate Response and Adaptation					
Supports to Communities – Emergency Preparedness	120	-	-	-	120
Supports for Communities – Wildfire Prevention	90	-	-	-	90
Wildfire Prevention Projects and Services	-	52	23	23	98
EMBC and Wildfire Service Resources	-	45	50	51	145
Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy	30	13	20	20	83
Climate-Ready Transportation Networks*	-	15	20	30	65
Total Climate Response and Adaptation	240	125	113	124	602
Total	240	925	613	374	2,152
<i>*Capital Funding</i>					
<i>Table may not sum due to rounding</i>					

These investments will support better information to assess and target areas of acute risk (e.g., floodplain and climate risk mapping), as well as provide for increased structural mitigation, improved infrastructure standards and other risk mitigation efforts to better adapt to a changing climate.

Despite these efforts, the Province will need to be able to better respond to disasters as they arise. *Budget 2022* provides increased funding to support preparedness and response, with \$145 million over three years for additional staffing to support agencies on the front lines, such as Emergency Management BC and BC Wildfire Services. Capital funding is also provided for facilities and equipment

to respond to disasters. Funding will move the BC Wildfire Service to a more proactive model, with significant increases in permanent year-round staffing.

While this budget includes investments to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change, it remains critical that government continue to lead in efforts to fight climate change. *Budget 2022* also commits more than \$1 billion to continue existing CleanBC measures and implement new initiatives to help British Columbia meet its emissions reductions targets and mitigate the worst impacts of climate change. CleanBC initiatives are discussed further on page 24.

Committed to Building for the Future

Strengthening the Infrastructure People Rely On

Budget 2022 provides historic investments to build the critical infrastructure that people rely on through a record \$27.4 billion in infrastructure investments in the three-year fiscal plan. Planning is underway for the major infrastructure projects that will come in the years ahead. These investments will help B.C. build back better with low-carbon, climate resilient infrastructure, and will directly and indirectly create over 100,000 jobs over three years, supporting the Province’s Economic Plan and helping drive the clean and inclusive economic growth which is critical to B.C.’s long-term prosperity.

The *Budget 2022* capital plan ensures that the Province continues to build for the needs of today and tomorrow. There are currently 42 major projects (i.e. projects costing over \$50 million) in construction, totalling \$14.4 billion. A further 15 major projects are currently in or preparing for procurement totalling \$9.4 billion. In all, 17 major projects have been approved since the start of the pandemic. Altogether, government is moving project planning forward to ensure that the momentum of the record capital spending continues in the three-year fiscal plan period and beyond.

In order to be ready for design, procurement and construction, major projects require significant planning to assess the options, schedule, cost and scope of the project. This planning and due diligence ensures projects are successful and deliver not only the

services British Columbians rely on, but also strategic priorities such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using more mass timber in construction, increasing child care spaces and growing the skilled construction workforce. Some examples of projects in planning in the public sector are shown in the table below.

Progress on Highway 1: The section of highway between Langley and Abbotsford is a vital trade corridor of national importance, and an artery for the communities of the Fraser Valley. In order to increase mobility along this important corridor for people and goods, government has projects in various stages of development. The 6-laning of the highway from 202 St. to a new interchange at 216th St. in Langley was completed in 2020. Currently in design is a widening project from 216th St. to 264th St., scheduled to complete in 2024. To deliver on government’s commitment, the project to widen Highway 1 from 264th St to Whatcom Rd. is in the planning phase.

CleanBC: In November 2020, British Columbia launched the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, an ambitious climate plan to deliver on its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and build a stronger, cleaner B.C. Transportation is the province’s largest single source of GHG emissions, accounting for approximately 40 per cent of the annual total in British Columbia. Reducing GHG emissions from transport means ensuring that people are able to choose cleaner, more efficient ways to get around including transit. This keeps B.C. on the path to a sustainable future, through shorter commute times and greener transportation.

Update on Project Status

Project	Status
Highway 1: 264 th St. to Whatcom Rd.	Preliminary Planning
Millennium Line Extension to UBC	Preliminary Planning
Surrey-Langley SkyTrain	Business Planning
Long-Term Care: Health Authority Facility Renewal and Expansion	Business Planning
New Cancer Centres	Preliminary Planning, Business Planning and Procurement

Families rely on public transit to connect to housing, employment, schools, and government's investment to make transit free for children under 13 will only increase the number of families choosing public transit as their mode of transportation. South of the Fraser River, the Surrey Langley SkyTrain project will meet the transit needs of this growing region, which represents 25 per cent of the population of Metro Vancouver. In 2021, the federal government announced its funding commitment of up to \$1.3 billion for the project, and it is now in the business plan development stage.

Preliminary planning on the Millennium Line extension to UBC is underway with funding support for planning costs from the federal and provincial governments, City of Vancouver, University of British Columbia, and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Development Corporation. This project will provide SkyTrain service to one of the largest employers in the region. The project would extend the Millennium Line past Arbutus Street following completion of the Broadway Subway in 2025.

Recovering and Renewing Critical

Infrastructure: The November 2021 storms caused significant damage to provincial infrastructure and reinforced the importance of transportation links and trade corridors. Government is dedicated to recovering and strengthening the provincial highway system in this region which connects B.C. goods to the international market and connects B.C. businesses and families. Planning is underway to rebuild highways and ensure the province's transportation system is resilient to future weather events. For more information, see the topic box on Flood Response and Recovery, page 31.

Long-Term Care: The pandemic has highlighted the need for better conditions and levels of care for residents in long-term care facilities. In the health sector, project planning is underway to renew and expand health authority-owned long-term care facilities,

with the first business plans expected to complete this year. By building facilities with modern, single-bed rooms, residents will be safer, healthier, more comfortable and live with more dignity.

Cancer Care: The Province is committed to improving cancer care in regions around the province. New state-of-the-art cancer care centres are coming to more communities so that patients and their caregivers can access care closer to home. The new cancer care centre in Surrey is in procurement as part of the new Surrey hospital project, while the new cancer centre in Burnaby is in business planning as part of Phase 2 of the Burnaby Hospital redevelopment. To support patients and caregivers on Vancouver Island and in the Interior, new cancer centres in Kamloops and Nanaimo are now in preliminary planning.

Government's capital investments are also helping to achieve its environmental and social goals. Through the planning process, government is applying an Environmental, Social and Governance lens to all projects, which means: demonstrating to the world the opportunities of innovative mass timber construction; creating more child care spaces; incorporating energy efficient and low-carbon design; creating a safer and more resilient network of infrastructure; and creating more apprenticeship and training opportunities in local communities, particularly for traditionally under-represented groups who want to build a career in the trades. Since 2018, Community Benefit Agreements on 12 approved projects are growing the skilled trades workforce in high-demand careers. Supporting these projects, the B.C. Infrastructure Benefits Inc. Crown corporation effectively recruits and retains workers from traditionally under-represented groups, with 14 per cent of its workforce identifying as Indigenous compared to 6 per cent in the general population and over double the industry average of women in construction. For more information, please refer to the topic box on B.C.'s Environmental, Social and Governance Values on page 46.

A Responsible Approach to Budgeting and Fiscal Planning

The COVID-19 pandemic and the flooding events of 2021 required a swift and significant fiscal response to ensure the health, safety and well-being of British Columbians. This ongoing response continues to make sure British Columbia's people, businesses and communities recover together. The events of the past several years have also highlighted the need for new and ongoing investments to strengthen society, the economy and the environment.

Budget 2022 responds to these challenges with investments of \$6.6 billion over the fiscal plan period to improve health care, support people experiencing homelessness, continue the development of a universal child care system, train workers for the future economy, and fight climate change while protecting people and communities from climate-related disasters.

During consultations with the Economic Forecast Council for *Budget 2021*, members noted that adaptive and targeted government supports are needed through the pandemic with careful consideration about when and how they are withdrawn in B.C. and Canada. It was agreed that in the long-term the B.C. government should remain disciplined in its fiscal planning to maintain the solid fiscal position with which it entered the pandemic. In alignment with this consultation, *Budget 2021* implemented fiscal guardrails to guide ongoing financial planning. These guardrails included:

Year-over-year declining deficits – *Budget 2022* presents declining deficits over time from \$5.5 billion in 2022/23 to \$3.2 billion in 2024/25.

Targeted spending criteria – Budget invitations were limited to the highest of government priorities to continue to respond to the pandemic and address gaps and growing inequality that were exposed or accelerated by the pandemic and recent climate-related disasters.

Prudence levels – *Budget 2022* maintains prudence levels such as a prudent economic forecast compared to the Economic Forecast Council and an elevated forecast allowance.

Pandemic Recovery Contingencies – Time-limited funding is provided for COVID-19 response and is expected to taper off when the pandemic passes.

Debt metrics and debt affordability – The Province continues to monitor debt-to-GDP and debt-to-revenue measures as measures of overall sustainability of debt.

Transparent and timely reporting – As demonstrated since the beginning of the pandemic, government is committed to transparent and timely reporting and will continue to provide updated economic forecasts as well as detailed reporting of pandemic measures.

These guardrails are further discussed in a topic box on page 30 of the *Budget 2021* document.

During *Budget 2022* consultations, the Economic Forecast Council noted that fiscal discipline helps maintain and strengthen B.C.'s economic resilience. To align with this advice, the broad fiscal planning guardrails continue to guide budgeting and fiscal planning in the midst of ongoing uncertainty and the additional need to rebuild from the flood damages over the medium-term. This is further discussed in the "Flood Response and Recovery" Topic Box on page 31.

A responsible approach to budgeting and fiscal planning recognizes that there are other key indicators needed to guide government's decisions as it strives to meet the needs of British Columbians while maintaining fiscal discipline. In order to ensure this broader perspective was considered in the development of *Budget 2022*, the Minister of Finance also consulted with an ESG Advisory

Council following the meeting with the Economic Forecast Council. They noted the importance of carefully monitoring a range of environmental and socioeconomic outcomes, both across regional and demographic groups, in assessing the province's well-being. More information on this council and its discussions can be found on page 47. As part of current budget and fiscal planning, the Province monitors key fiscal and economic indicators. This set of indicators will be expanded in order to ensure a balanced approach over the longer term as government reduces the deficit over time and returns to balanced operating budgets. As part of each annual budget process an overall assessment of the following indicators will be used to update the long-term fiscal outlook described below. This assessment will explain how the outlook may shift in response to changes in the economy or the need to respond to public health or other emergencies such as flood and wildfire response and recovery.

- **Health Indicators** – The global pandemic continues to play a key role in assumptions of economic, financial, and expenditure decisions. The Province will continue to monitor case counts, vaccination rates, hospitalization rates and the Province's position on the BC's Restart Plan to guide economic forecasts and the decisions about ongoing health response and supports for B.C. businesses, communities, and people.
- **Debt Affordability Indicators** – *Budget 2022* makes progress on important new and existing infrastructure projects and related programs and services (see the topic box titled "Committed to Building for the Future" on page 35). After investments in health care, flood response and recovery, and necessary investments in schools, housing and transportation, the debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to remain below 25 per cent in each year of the fiscal plan at 20 per cent in 2022/23, 21.8 per cent in 2023/24 and 22.8 per cent in 2024/25. Debt-to-revenue is projected to be 110.9 per cent in 2022/23, 122.7 per cent in 2023/24, and 129.8 per cent in 2024/25. These metrics continue to compare favourably to debt metrics in peer jurisdictions and the Province

will continue to use them to guide financial planning. In addition to debt metrics, government will continue to monitor the Province's access to affordable financing in the credit market.

- **Economic and Business Indicators** – *Budget 2022* continues to monitor the performance of B.C.'s economy by tracking labour force developments, reporting on the health of B.C.'s economic sectors, and providing updates on factors affecting affordability and growth prospects in the province. In addition, the Province monitors business indicators such as small business confidence, the number of active businesses, and tax competitiveness compared to other jurisdictions. Some of these are further discussed in the Economic Section starting on page 95, and advice from the Economic Forecast Council is provided in the topic box on page 121.
- **Community Recovery Indicators** – The climate-related disasters of 2021 damaged communities and provincial infrastructure, and will require additional spending in the near-term to help communities recover. Fiscal planning will consider qualitative indicators on community recovery including the status of highway rebuilding projects and the state of agriculture in impacted regions.
- **Environmental, Social and Governance Indicators** – In addition, government continues to broadly monitor and report on progress towards its commitments to improving environmental and social measures through progress reports on various strategies. These include annual reporting on the Province's implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, CleanBC, TogetherBC, ChildCareBC, among others. These are further discussed in the topic box titled "BC's Environmental, Social and Governance Values" on page 46.

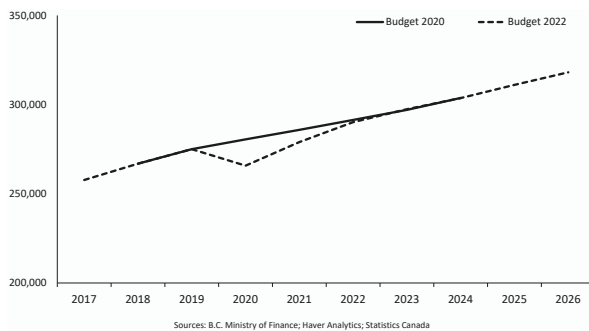
State of Economic Recovery

B.C.'s economy has proven broadly resilient following the downturn at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, but many people,

communities and businesses continue to face challenges.

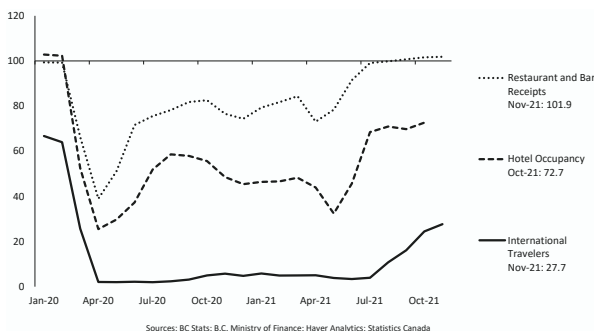
Budget 2022 estimates that B.C. achieved pre-pandemic levels of economic activity in 2021 and is expected to return to pre-pandemic trend levels of real GDP in 2022 and beyond (Chart 1). At a broad level, many major macroeconomic indicators have surpassed their pre-pandemic levels, including total employment, retail sales, exports, and housing market activity. The labour market has recovered substantially: following the onset of the pandemic, the unemployment rate increased to an all-time high but has trended lower, and was below pre-pandemic levels in January 2022.

Chart 1 - B.C. Real GDP (chained 2012 \$ millions)



Despite these improvements, the recovery remains uneven across industries and groups of people. The recovery has been considerably slower for high-contact and travel-related industries. Sales at restaurants and bars have only recently returned to pre-pandemic levels, and the hospitality and travel industries remain

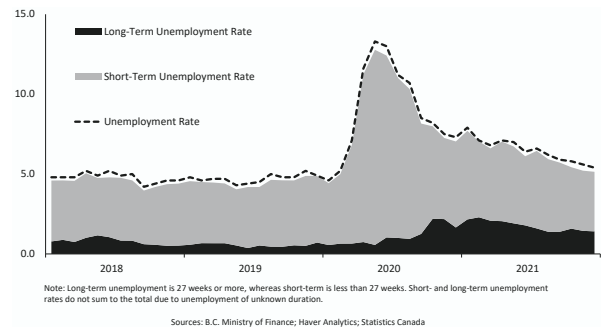
Chart 2 - COVID-19 Impacted Sectors (2019 average = 100)



depressed (Chart 2). Furthermore, tightening labour markets have made it difficult for these industries to rehire, with increased job vacancies concentrated in the accommodation and food services and retail trade sectors.

While the number of unemployed people has returned to near pre-pandemic levels, the number of people who have been looking for work for longer than 27 weeks remains high (See Chart 3). Furthermore, employment in some industries is still below pre-pandemic levels. To address this as well as the significant number of job openings forecast over the next decade, government is developing *Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow*, a workforce readiness plan which will expand training opportunities in various sectors and expand supports for Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers and communities through economic transition. The recovery is expected to broaden as public health orders, travel advisories and restrictions, and private concerns over high-contact services ease. In addition, expenditures and hiring to rebuild damaged infrastructure from November's floods will have a positive impact on jobs and economic activity in the province.

Chart 3 - B.C. Unemployment Rate (per cent)



Meanwhile, rising costs for goods, services and housing are challenging for many households. In the last quarter of 2021, B.C. consumer prices have increased at a pace not seen since the early 1990s. While B.C.'s inflation rate has been lower than the national average and rates seen in other G7 countries, increasing prices for essentials like food and gasoline can present

a real challenge. Housing costs have also been increasing, driven by low interest rates and low inventory of homes for sale or rent. The Bank of Canada expects inflation to moderate over the course of 2022, and the government will continue to monitor the impacts of inflation on affordability. Government is committed to addressing affordability through measures like ChildCareBC, continued investment in Homes for B.C., and CleanBC measures to support British Columbians with upgrades to reduce home heating costs.

Private sector forecasters (the Economic Forecast Council) generally expect B.C.'s economic growth to be broadly in line with the national average this year and next year. In the medium-to-long term B.C. is expected to grow faster than the Canadian economy. However, over the longer-term, provincial and national economic growth is expected to slow somewhat as labour supply growth shifts down, reflecting the aging population. Economists generally agree that attracting skilled labour, boosting immigration, and investing in productivity enhancing policies are important for stronger economic growth in the long-term. This is why the Province has a range of strategies and plans to improve B.C.'s economic prospects (see topic box on BC's Environmental, Social and Governance Values on page 46).

State of Fiscal Recovery

Budget 2021 was presented at the height of the pandemic and projected a deficit of \$9.698 billion for the 2021/22 fiscal year. In September 2021, the *First Quarterly Report* revised the projected deficit to \$4.834 billion. Most of this improvement was due to personal and corporate income tax revenue strength as reported by the federal government. The *Second Quarterly Report* was released in November 2021 and forecast a deficit of \$1.732 billion. This was due to further revenue improvements in-line with changes reported in other Canadian jurisdictions and following the release of stronger 2020 economic data by Statistics Canada. Statistics Canada had also reported improved economic activity through the fiscal year. The deficit projection is now \$483 million as detailed in the *Third Quarterly Report* beginning on page 125. These results are not final as there remains much uncertainty in the last quarter of the fiscal year. As well, most of the improvement in the third quarter is from a higher net income projection from the Insurance Corporation of BC, partly resulting from higher than projected investment earnings, which may fluctuate with volatility in the investment market. The forecast allowance for 2021/22 remains at \$1.0 billion in light of these uncertainties.

Table 1 - Key Fiscal Metrics, Budget 2021 and Budget 2022

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Budget 2021				
Projected Deficit	\$9.698 billion	\$5.484 billion	\$4.323 billion	N/A
Projected Debt-to-GDP Ratio	22.8%	25.0%	26.9%	N/A
Budget 2022				
Projected Deficit	\$483 million	\$5.461 billion	\$4.182 billion	\$3.181 billion
Projected Debt-to-GDP Ratio	17.7%	20.0%	21.8%	22.8%

Table 2 - Budget Prudence Measures

(\$ billions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
General Programs Contingencies including CleanBC (\$ billions)	1.000	2.848	3.412	3.987
Pandemic Recovery Contingencies (\$ billions).....	3.250	2.000	1.000	-
Forecast Allowance (\$ billions)	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Real GDP Growth Below EFC (percentage points, pp)*	0.1pp	0.2pp	0.2pp	0.2pp

*Calendar Year

A significant portion of the revenue improvements experienced during fiscal 2021/22, as described above, are one-time in nature, and are not expected to carry into future years. This includes taxation revenue adjustments from the early forecasts that had assumed a steeper pandemic recession, and significant investment gains reported by ICBC. Going forward, the Ministry of Finance continues to employ prudence in forecasting, however, improvements in the range experienced in 2021/22 are not expected.

These fiscal improvements from the time *Budget 2021* was presented have placed B.C. in a stronger financial position to respond to the ongoing pandemic and flood recovery needs. A lower overall debt level reduces government cost for debt servicing and improves debt metrics (such as debt-to-GDP ratio), thereby maintaining access to affordable credit markets.

Budget 2021 included elevated levels of Contingencies vote funding totalling \$4.25 billion. This included \$3.25 billion in Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies in 2021/22 to reflect that the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic required a unique response that will taper off when the pandemic passes. *Budget 2022* provides Pandemic Recovery Contingencies allocations of \$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24.

The General Programs Contingencies are used to accommodate the financial consequences of unanticipated and contingent events. It also accounts for potential increases in uptake for core government services as the provincial population grows, such as K-12 enrolment and income and disability assistance. General Programs Contingencies are also used to prepare for the costs of collective agreements once they have been completed.

The General Programs and CleanBC Contingencies allocations in *Budget 2022* are \$2.848 billion in 2022/23, \$3.412 billion in 2023/24, and \$3.987 billion in 2024/25. This includes more than \$1.1 billion over the next three years for disaster recovery costs to

reflect the one-time nature of these costs and the uncertainty of the timing of these costs as communities continue to assess recovery needs.

Over the medium term, total contingencies allocations will decline as time-limited funding requirements begin to taper off.

Long-Term Fiscal Outlook

General economic policy encourages governments to provide supports and stimulus to address economic downturns and extraordinary events, even if these supports result in time-limited deficits. While there are signs for optimism with respect to COVID-19, the ongoing health response and near-term costs associated with disaster recovery require that spending exceed anticipated revenues in the near term.

Government spending in the near-term includes the cost of health measures to respond to the pandemic and more than \$1.5 billion in additional provincial operating spending over the next three years to support recovery from the November 2021 flood event. This consists of \$400 million in the voted appropriation for the *Emergency Program Act* in 2022/23 and more than \$1.1 billion in General Programs Contingencies over the three year fiscal plan period.

In the medium to long-term, as temporary funding for the pandemic and the November 2021 flooding events are no longer required, the Province will return to a practice of increasing expenditures within the bounds of the increase in revenues that are available for each budget cycle — gradually decreasing deficits over time. While it is difficult to forecast revenues and expenses beyond the three-year fiscal plan, the Ministry of Finance's longer-term revenue growth assumptions are 3.2 per cent annually (based on a prudent economic scenario), and government spending growth is assumed to be roughly the same rate of spending as there is revenue growth. Maintaining a prudent economic scenario underscores government's commitment to responsible financial management practices. Any additional increase in government

spending may become possible in years with greater than projected increases in revenues through economic activity or additional transfers from the federal government.

With respect to the long-term revenue outlook, the Ministry of Finance has begun work to improve revenue resiliency and adapt individual revenue sources and the overall revenue mix to keep pace with ongoing structural economic changes and demographic shifts. Measures introduced in *Budget 2022* include tax collection, remittance, and reporting obligations for online marketplace facilitators; removing the sales tax exemption for tobacco products; and the adjustment of the purchase price of private vehicle sales for tax purposes. Together, these measures better adapt B.C.'s consumption taxes to the rapid expansion of e-commerce during the pandemic, close tax compliance gaps, and help the Province capture additional revenue when tobacco companies raise prices. These measures are further discussed beginning on page 87.

B.C.'s health care system continues to require additional resources due to a growing and aging population. The COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted gaps in the health care system. Maintaining the system while also improving the delivery of care for British Columbians will require investments that will challenge the Province's long-term fiscal outlook. This is not an experience unique to B.C. as all provinces will require growth in federal health spending to sustain their health care systems in a fiscally sustainable manner. This is further discussed in a topic box titled "A New Vision for Health Care Funding" on page 44.

Legislation Changes

The government continues to review its financial management and oversight legislation and practices to address evolving economic and fiscal priorities. *Budget 2022* includes the following proposed non-tax legislative changes:

- With the onset of the pandemic in 2020/21, the Legislature passed an amendment to the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial*

Accountability Act (BBMAA) to temporarily suspend the prohibition against presenting deficit budgets for fiscal years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24. *Budget 2022* proposes to extend this suspension to 2024/25 and the government will continue to annually review this suspension for each fiscal plan presented, in parallel with annual updates to the long-term fiscal outlook.

- Under the BBMAA, members of the Executive Council forfeit one-half of their annual salary holdback during years that deficits are allowed — this amounts to 10 per cent of a ministerial salary. During 2019/20 and 2020/21, Cabinet ministers forfeited this holdback even though deficits were the result of unprecedented events outside of Cabinet's direct control and were necessary in order to respond to the needs of British Columbians and return the economy to stable footing.

Budget 2022 includes a proposed amendment to the BBMAA, to repeal the collective 10 per cent salary holdback provision applicable to a minister in respect of Cabinet's collective responsibilities to avoid annual deficits or achieve a surplus. Individual ministers will, however, continue to be subject to the 10 per cent salary holdback applicable to achieving individual ministerial responsibilities. This means that individual ministers will remain accountable for ensuring that their ministry remains within approved spending targets set out in the annual *Estimates* for their ministry, in order to receive their 10 per cent salary holdback.

- Under the *Financial Administration Act*, Treasury Board has overall responsibility for financial administration and budget management on behalf of government. To assist Treasury Board in efficiently addressing evolving priorities and responding to day-to-day urgent matters before government — such as pandemic recovery and other priorities — an amendment to the *Financial Administration Act* is proposed to enable Treasury Board to delegate some of its functions to the chair or vice-chair of

Treasury Board. The proposed amendment also ensures that matters delegated to the chair or vice-chair remain confidential and privileged, consistent with matters that come before Cabinet, Treasury Board and other Cabinet committees.

- A number of minor housekeeping amendments are proposed to the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, to update and clarify various sections.
 - An unused exemption provision for reporting capital projects over \$50 million for education and health sector organizations will be removed to reflect existing practice and help ensure that all provincial public sector projects over \$50 million are consistently reported.
 - Where final funding commitments for major projects are made within 30 days before the date of presenting the government’s annual budget and Estimates, immediate BTAA reporting requirements will be deferred and reporting will be included as part of the government’s First Quarterly Report in the next fiscal year. This change recognizes the information cut-off requirements necessary for preparing and presenting the government’s budget, Estimates, and annual service plans while still maintaining reporting principles of the BTAA.

A New Vision for Health Care Funding

Budget 2022 re-affirms the Province’s commitment to prioritizing the health and safety of British Columbians by investing to meet demand for all health services, including primary, surgical, and cancer care. Government’s long-term fiscal outlook will be challenged by the increased health needs of a growing and aging population. The COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted gaps in Canada’s health care system. Meeting the shared priority of ensuring the health and safety of Canadians requires additional support in ongoing health funding from the federal government.

To illustrate the challenges faced in funding Canada’s health care system, the Conference Board of Canada’s recent report on health care cost drivers pointed to a need for an ongoing increase of an additional 4.5 per cent in health care spending annually to meet annual caseload demands on the system. This is further illustrated below.

Table 1 - Drivers of Health Care Caseload Costs – Canada-Wide

Inflation	2.5%
Aging Demographics	1.0%
Population Growth	1.0%
TOTAL	4.5%

In B.C., both population growth and the aging population are higher than the Canadian average. In addition, improvements are needed to make health care more responsive to the needs of British Columbians by expanding primary care networks, supporting those with mental health and addictions issues, improving long-term care services, modernizing hospital care, and meeting the ongoing demand for pharmaceutical, diagnostic, imaging, and cancer care services. In addition, British Columbia must be able to recruit and retain the health care workforce required to respond to ongoing challenges.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the need for these broad systems changes. Many of the measures adopted during the pandemic, such as the Rural and Remote Framework, the Hospital at Home program, and service

improvements at long-term care facilities will need to become permanent beyond the pandemic to help address these challenges.

Under scenarios where health care costs increase at a higher annual rate of 5.5%, in the absence of the change to federal funding the Province’s deficits are expected to continue to grow.

The federal government provides ongoing support for health care through the Canada

“Now is the time for a new long-term funding partnership for health care in Canada. First Ministers must meet and have a meaningful discussion in order to find a sustainable solution to this situation as soon as possible... A new vision for health care, supported by a significant, long-term increase in federal funding, is needed to ensure we emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic and ready to respond to the needs of our citizens.”

— Premier John Horgan,
February 4, 2022
Council of the
Federation Press Release

Health Transfer (CHT), which represents 22.3 per cent of B.C.'s health care costs in 2022/23. This does not include any additional spending by the Province (or transfers from the federal government) related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While it may not be a direct comparison to B.C., it is expected that over the next decade the CHT will fall to less than one dollar out of every five dollars that provinces and territories spend on health care.

A significant factor in this reduction in federal support as a share of health care spending is that growth in the federal CHT was reduced in 2017/18 from 6 per cent to the higher of either 3 per cent or a moving average of nominal economic growth. While the CHT will grow by 4.8 per cent nationally in 2022/23, that is the highest growth since the new formula was put in place. The average over the five preceding years was just 3.6 per cent. Over the five years prior to COVID-19, B.C.'s health care spending increased by an average of over \$1 billion per year, while B.C.'s share of the CHT increased by an average of about \$250 million per year. Outside of the CHT, the federal government has been providing funding to address COVID-19, but that funding has only been provided on a one-time or short-term basis and will not support health care expenditures over the long term.

Health care sustainability has been an ongoing issue and is expected to continue to be a significant concern across the country. Projections by the Conference Board of Canada and the Parliamentary Budget Office suggest that despite large short-term deficits, the federal government is positioned to be in surplus over the long term, while provinces and territories collectively are projected to experience increasing deficits. Resourcing B.C.'s health care system in a fiscally sustainable manner will require more robust growth in federal health funding for B.C. and all provinces in the long term.

Since 2015, the Council of the Federation (Canada's Premiers) has been actively calling on the federal government to become a full partner in health care funding. In September 2020, Premiers called on the Government of Canada to increase the Canada Health Transfer to 35 per cent of health care spending. Following a First Ministers Meeting that December, the Prime Minister stated, "It's going to be important that the federal government steps up and increases its share of the cost of health care with the Canada Health Transfer. We are going to do that, and I look forward to conversations over the coming months about how we can increase it."¹

This year, B.C. has taken on a leadership role in support of enhanced health care funding. On September 16, 2021, Premier John Horgan became chair of Canada's Premiers and the Honourable Selina Robinson became chair of the provincial and territorial Finance Ministers' table. In December, the Honourable Adrian Dix became chair of the provincial and territorial Health Ministers' table. They are working closely together as well as with their federal, provincial, and territorial counterparts toward a First Ministers' Meeting on health care sustainability. A stronger federal partnership will improve long-term sustainability for health systems and provide funding for ongoing enhancements to health care for all Canadians.

¹ Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trudeau-premiers-post-meeting-press-conference-1.5836535>

B.C.'s Environmental, Social and Governance Values

Government is focused on building a strong, expanding economy, where the benefits are shared more equally, and where environmental sustainability is the basis for future growth.

The most common measurement of economic growth and prosperity is Gross Domestic Product (GDP). However, GDP only measures a subset of human activity and does not measure many important aspects relating to health, education, inequality, poverty, governance and the environment. There is a growing body of research that supports an overall shift to more comprehensive approaches for assessing growth and prosperity. Proponents of this shift include the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations and Statistics Canada. The monitoring and reporting on these measures are discussed further below in the section titled 'ESG Values in Action'.

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors are important considerations that impact B.C.'s long-term sustainability, growth opportunities and material risks. Financial and investor communities are increasingly applying ESG information as part of their analysis to identify growth opportunities and risks. B.C. seeks to be a leader in this field to attract more investment and to grow the economy, while more accurately measuring how this growth translates to improvements in the quality of life for people and communities. Government's economic plan, *StrongerBC: A Plan for Today, a Vision for Tomorrow*, includes developing ESG tools that will allow government to measure progress towards achieving those goals. Incorporating ESG values into long-term strategic planning and communicating ESG outcomes to stakeholders and investors will enable the Province to meet its goal to lead in this field and attract investment. This is further discussed in the section below.

BC's Environmental, Social & Governance Report

Budget 2022 is presented alongside *BC's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Report*. The Report provides a broad overview of government's important programs, policies and projects and highlights the ongoing progress that the Province is making to embed ESG values in the core work of ministries across government. The Report also provides a picture of how the province contributes to a better quality of life through climate action, improved social conditions, and more transparent governance. The report also supports investors with ESG questions about investing in B.C.

Feedback from the financial and investor communities, which are eager to learn about B.C.'s ESG values and actions, along with collaboration across ministries, prompted the creation of the Report. The approach to the Report was developed from consultations with financial market stakeholders. The contents of the Report were informed by engagement with Indigenous partners. The initiatives included in the Report showcase the strong alignment of ESG principles and the core values of government.

BC's ESG Report outlines the selected programs, policies, frameworks, organizations and projects which support and augment government's commitment to sustainable and socially responsible work across the province.

- ***Environmental:*** The report discusses the impacts and benefits which government actions have on the environment; the contribution government makes in the fight against climate change through greenhouse gas emissions, waste management, energy efficiency and actions to decarbonize and cut emissions; and how government works to achieve natural resource goals, such as land and resource management, biodiversity, air and water quality, and reducing deforestation.

- **Social:** The report discusses how government supports people and culture in B.C., including discussion of inclusivity, gender equity and diversity, race and multiculturalism, community relationships, human rights and labour standards.
- **Governance:** The report discusses how government's practices, systems and procedures affect leadership, data protection, privacy and transparency. There is also discussion of B.C.'s planning, budgeting, and reporting processes that ensure government's finances are fiscally sustainable and transparent.

BC's ESG Report recognizes and emphasizes the important work that government does to serve British Columbians every day while also providing crucial information on risks and opportunities to investors. In addition to *BC's ESG Report*, a topic box on "A Responsible Approach to Budgeting and Fiscal Planning" can be found on page 37. This discusses how government uses health, disaster recovery, debt affordability and economic metrics as part of fiscal planning.

ESG Advisory Council

In preparation for *Budget 2022*, the Minister of Finance consulted with a new ESG Advisory Council in addition to the Economic Forecast Council to further explore how the provincial government can continue to support well-being in B.C. Feedback from the two councils was used to inform fiscal planning. See the topic box on page 121 for further information about the Economic Forecast Council.

The ESG Advisory Council was comprised of the following members:

- Christine Bergeron, Vancity
- David Green, University of British Columbia
- Jennifer Coulson, BCI
- Jim Stanford, Centre for Future Work
- Mark Podlasly, First Nations Major Projects Coalition
- Nancy Olewiler, Simon Fraser University

Key themes throughout the ESG Advisory Council meeting were reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation. Many ideas were shared about standards of living, poverty and inequality, including issues around housing and child care affordability. The Council also highlighted the importance of inclusive access to education, skills training and financial capital. Other pressing topics of discussion included B.C.'s evolving labour market, policies and measures that build shared prosperity, sustainable natural resource development, and opportunities for innovation across B.C.'s economy.

In general, members of the ESG Advisory Council highlighted the need to partner with Indigenous Peoples and affected groups in private and public sector decision-making processes in order to diversify discussions, improve implementation and foster inclusive prosperity. They further noted that careful consideration and monitoring of environmental and socioeconomic outcomes (particularly across regions and diverse GBA+ population groups) contributes to supporting strong communities in B.C.

ESG Values in Action

B.C.'s Economic Plan

Government has released the [*Stronger BC Economic Plan: A Plan for Today, A Vision for Tomorrow*](#). The long-term plan sets out an approach to creating a more inclusive, sustainable, and innovative economy that works for more British Columbians. The plan charts the path to meeting two big goals — inclusive growth and clean growth — and identifies six missions and new priorities that achieve the overarching goals of inclusive and clean growth.

To achieve inclusive growth the economic plan focuses on missions to support people and families, build resilient communities, and to advance true, lasting and meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Government has made much progress on this respect through implementation of its

child care plan, the elimination of student loan interest, ongoing investments to provide high-speed internet connectivity to communities, transit expansion, and through ongoing collaboration to implement the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act)*. The Plan identifies new priorities that include the development of the Province's workforce readiness strategy to address the challenge of filling of more than one million job openings in B.C. over the next ten years, working with Indigenous communities to secure new economic opportunities, and closing the digital divide.

The Plan highlights three missions to achieve clean growth: meeting B.C.'s climate commitments, leading on environmental and social responsibility, and fostering innovation across the economy. There is significant work underway on initiatives that support these missions including the establishment of a new \$500 million strategic investment fund with InBC Investment Corporation, investing in the development of clean energy through initiatives such as the Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy, and through the creation of 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces in B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions. New initiatives, such as the establishment of integrated marketplaces, will help drive innovation by supporting companies to scale up efficiently and develop and market new products. The development of a Mass Timber Action Plan will also help foster low-carbon innovation to responsibly grow an emerging industry. Further strategies will be developed to create more domestic manufacturing capability, and a strategy to promote cleaner and more efficient movement of B.C. goods within the province and internationally.

As part of the Plan, the Province will track economic progress in conjunction with other key indicators, such as health, equality, education, reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and social connectedness. These indicators will be tracked to measure progress towards achieving these missions and to adjust course as necessary.

Climate Action and Accountability

Government has legislated targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 40 per cent below 2007 levels by 2030, 60 per cent by 2040 and 80 per cent by 2050. Sector-specific emission reduction targets have also been established for four sectors: transportation, industry, oil and gas, and buildings and communities.

The Province established an accountability framework under the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, which requires the Province to produce an annual [Climate Change Accountability Report](#) on or after October 1st each year. The 2021 report included a range of information detailing significant progress across a suite of policies, programs and legislation implemented over previous years.

In 2021, B.C. developed new actions and released the [CleanBC Roadmap 2030](#) to meet emission reduction targets through accelerated and expanded actions in pathways including: low carbon energy, cleaner transportation, better buildings and communities, and cleaner industry, among others. The CleanBC Roadmap meets government's commitment to build and implement a credible plan to achieve B.C.'s target and was informed by new emissions projections showing greater action to meet its 2030 GHG targets is required.

Budget 2022 builds on CleanBC investments of over \$2.3 billion to provide over \$1 billion over the next three years to accelerate climate action in B.C. This includes funding to maintain the province's economic competitiveness while taking steps to reduce emissions. It will support the expansion of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard and establish a new emissions cap on natural gas utilities, which are anticipated to support significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. It also includes funding for a new Clean Transportation Action Plan, which will encourage mode shifting such as active transportation, developing the highest efficiency standards for space and water heating, and a new Local Government Climate Action Plan that will help local governments

take action to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. *Budget 2022* features continued investment in the Climate Action Tax Credit to ensure the transition to a low-carbon economy is affordable. Over the next year, government will be reviewing the carbon tax to ensure it continues to drive emissions reductions while protecting affordability and economic competitiveness and will lay out a plan to continue to meet or exceed the federal benchmark in line with the increasing federal price requirements.

Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

A core part of the Province's approach to ESG is the advancement of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through respect and recognition of Indigenous People's inherent rights, including the right to self-determination and self-government. Work is ongoing to implement the *Declaration Act* which requires government to consult and cooperate with Indigenous Peoples to align B.C.'s laws with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration), develop and implement an Action Plan to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration, and prepare an annual report on progress made on aligning laws and achieving the goals in the action plan.

In 2021, the Province released a draft Action Plan to support ongoing consultation and further collaboration with Indigenous Peoples. Once finalized, the Action Plan will help advance reconciliation by defining a set of long-term goals and outcomes, and identifying specific actions covering the whole of government. Government also produces an annual report on progress. The [2020/21 Annual Report](#) highlighted progress government has made at addressing anti-Indigenous racism in the health care system, long-term revenue sharing, Indigenous justice initiatives, among other steps taken to implement the UN Declaration.

ChildCareBC

ChildCareBC was launched in 2018 to bring affordable, accessible, inclusive and quality child care to families that want or need it. Since 2018, government has introduced the Affordable Child Care Benefit, an income-tested benefit to help eligible families with child care costs. Government has also introduced the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative that lowers the cost of child care for families by up to \$350 per month, per child. The Province's New Spaces Fund is B.C.'s key space creation program, supporting organizations to create new licensed child care spaces across the province. Government has also sought to improve quality by investing in the child care workforce. This has included the provision of bursaries to individuals seeking to become certified early childhood educators, the expansion of professional development opportunities for early childhood educators and child care providers, and a \$4 per hour wage enhancement for those certified early childhood educators. *Budget 2022* includes further investments to continue the development of this important system.

As stipulated under an agreement with the Government of Canada, the Province publishes an [annual report](#) on progress and results achieved on shared child care priorities between the Province and the federal government.

Poverty Reduction Strategy

[TogetherBC](#) is the Province's first poverty reduction strategy to reduce overall poverty in B.C. over five years. Specifically, the strategy set out to reduce overall poverty rate in B.C. by 25 per cent and the child poverty rate by 50 per cent below 2016 levels by 2024. The *Poverty Reduction Strategy Act* establishes government's accountability to the people of B.C., providing a clearly defined scope and legislated targets, a framework for ongoing community involvement, and an [annual progress report](#) that is published by October 1 each year.

The 2020 Annual Report showed that, as of 2019, B.C.'s overall poverty rate had decreased 29 per cent and the child poverty rate decreased 58 per cent below 2016 levels, thereby exceeding the province's legislated targets. The Province continues to work collaboratively, with community organizations, Indigenous communities and all orders of government to chart an inclusive and equitable path towards poverty reduction.

Affordable Housing

In *Budget 2018*, B.C. government launched [Homes for BC](#), its 10-year housing plan. Through the plan's 30 actions, all of which have been implemented or are under way, government is working with its partners towards building 114,000 affordable homes for British Columbians by 2028. Since Homes for BC was launched, more than 32,000 new homes are complete, under construction or in the approvals process.

BC Housing reports on its progress and sets out performance indicators and targets for its housing programs through its [Annual Service Plan Report](#). The 2020/21 Annual Service Plan Report highlighted the creation of 4,222 new homes in 46 communities across the province, surpassing its target of 3,500 homes. Government monitors housing data to inform future policy actions and measure progress. For example, the December 2021 New Homes Registry Report shows that 53,189 new homes were registered in B.C. in 2021, the highest yearly total since data was collected in 2002. The Province will keep working with municipalities to streamline development processes and build homes faster and is looking at other potential measures to ensure prospective buyers are protected in a volatile market.

Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism

As the most ethnically diverse province in Canada, B.C. has typically welcomed more than 40,000 new immigrants annually, in

recent years. Cultural diversity and increased participation and engagement by all cultures is important to create a strong and vibrant social and economic future for British Columbians. The *Multiculturalism Act* recognizes the crucial role that ministries and Crown corporations play in promoting multiculturalism and fostering a society in which there are no impediments to the full and free participation of all British Columbians.

The [Annual Report on Multiculturalism](#) provides an overview of government actions, while also ensuring accountability and allowing for the sharing of leading practices. Over 40 government agencies are integrating anti-racism, diversity and inclusion into policies, programs and service delivery.

Governance and Transparency

BC's ESG Report provides an overview of government's internal practices, systems and procedures that lead to greater levels of transparency, especially in financial planning and budgeting. These are codified in legislation and regulations.

Budget 2021 established a framework of fiscal guardrails to guide financial decisions that continue to be used in *Budget 2022*. These guardrails include a Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies Vote to fund time-limited initiatives to respond to the pandemic. The guardrails also included transparent and timely reporting to provide updated economic forecasts as well as detailed reporting of pandemic measures. The 2021/22 *Third Quarterly Report* can be found on page 125.

Further information is provided in the topic box on "A Responsible Approach to Budgeting and Fiscal Planning" which begins on page 37. The topic box discusses how government intends to take a responsible approach to budgeting and fiscal planning as part of the long-term work to reduce annual deficits over time.

ESG Framework for Capital

Government applies an Environmental, Social and Governance Framework for Capital that guides the delivery of key government priorities through the development of Provincial public sector projects. In this context, applying an Environmental, Social and Governance lens to capital plan investments supports:

Labour Objectives – Government leverages public sector infrastructure investments to provide employment and apprentice training opportunities for traditionally under-represented groups who want to build a career in the trades. Using project labour agreements, such as the Community Benefits Agreement, public sector projects can help accelerate the development of the next generation of skilled workers and close current skills gaps.

New Child Care Spaces – Building new licenced child care spaces alongside existing public sector projects capitalizes on existing construction resources that are in place to achieve an additional government objective. B.C. has committed to creating 30,000 new licensed child care spaces within five years, and 40,000 spaces within seven years, through a partnership with the federal government. Creating new spaces within new public sector buildings will support this commitment.

Mass Timber Construction – By using mass timber as a structural component in new public sector buildings, government is demonstrating leadership in the use of this innovative building material, helping to mainstream the use of this value-added product and support the province's forestry industry.

CleanBC Objectives – By developing clear requirements for public sector buildings in terms of both emissions standards and climate resiliency measures, new provincial assets will be prepared for the climate of the future and contribute less to the causes of climate change today.

Governance – The [Capital Asset Management Framework](#) sets out government's expectations for the delivery and management of capital assets. It is composed of best practice guidelines and tools to support public sector agencies by describing the Province's principles, standards, policies and processes for managing capital assets such as schools, hospitals and transportation infrastructure. It highlights roles and responsibilities, risk management, financial and accounting considerations, reporting, procurement and planning processes that govern the management, review and approval of all of government's capital projects.

Established in 2002, the Framework was released as part of a series of initiatives to strengthen fiscal sustainability. While the overarching principles of the Framework remain relevant, an update is required to reflect changes in policy, procedures and industry practices as well as to ensure capital projects are meeting expectations about the delivery of key government priorities.

To this end, the Province is updating the Framework under the direction of the Deputy Ministers and Industry Infrastructure Forum to reaffirm and reinforce the vision of the Framework throughout the lifecycle of public capital assets.

The Deputy Ministers and Industry Infrastructure Forum was created in 2013 and is composed of senior executives from ministries involved in capital asset construction and management, and senior representatives from the construction industry. It is co-chaired by the Deputy Minister of Finance and a representative from the BC Construction Association. Its main functions are to promote relationship building, development and sharing of information and best practices related to capital asset construction and management in B.C. The work of this Forum highlights the importance of collaboration between government and the construction industry in the delivery of public infrastructure.

BC Public Service

Full-time equivalent (FTE) staff utilization in core government ministries is projected to be 34,400 FTEs across the fiscal plan period. This is an increase of 1,000 FTEs compared to the 2021/22 forecast. The anticipated FTE growth is mainly due to expansions of child care programming, wildfire and emergency management services, and additional staffing requirements for the implementation of CleanBC. Additional FTEs are forecasted for the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and to staff the Declaration Act Secretariat.

BC Public Sector Compensation

There are more than 500,000 people in British Columbia's public sector working in the core Public Service, at Crown corporations and agencies, in health and community social services, K-12 public education and post-secondary institutions and research universities. Of those people, approximately 394,000 are unionized employees. Fiscal year 2022/23 marks the transition between the 2019 *Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate* (SSNM) and the Province's public sector bargaining mandate for the 2022 round of negotiations. *Budget 2022* supports the final compensation adjustments pursuant to the SSNM as well as collective agreements as they are reached under the new mandate in the future. Funding is held in General Programs Contingencies to prepare for the ratification of collective agreements throughout the fiscal plan period.

Spending Recovered from Third Parties

Government projects that, over the fiscal plan period, it will incur over \$11 billion in program spending which will be recovered from third parties.

A total of \$4.5 billion of programs will be delivered with funding from the federal government, such as the Labour Market Development Agreement, the Canada Job Grant, public transit, health, and child and family support programs.

Recovered costs include an estimated \$2.9 billion in interest payments from commercial Crown corporations through the fiscal agency loan program and from sinking fund investment returns.

\$4 billion in government spending is supported by various recovery sources, primarily other jurisdictions, other levels of government, agencies, and fees and licenses. Expenses that relate to these recoveries include health care, PharmaCare, transportation projects, and grants to various organizations in the community, and employee health benefits costs collected from participating government agencies.

Program spending from recoveries have no net impact to the government's fiscal plan as the recoveries are reported as revenue and the spending is expensed as it is incurred.

Transfers to Service Delivery Agencies

Around 61 per cent of ministry spending takes the form of transfers (both operating and capital) to service delivery agencies for the provision of services on behalf of government. These transfers will total \$109 billion over the three-year fiscal plan period and will support education, health care, social services, housing, and transportation programs delivered by the agencies. These service delivery agencies include the SUCH sector (schools, universities, colleges and health organizations), Community Living BC, BC Housing Management Commission, BC Transit, and the BC Transportation Financing Authority.

Service Delivery Agency Spending

Service delivery agency spending is projected to increase from \$42.2 billion in 2021/22 to \$43.5 billion by 2024/25, an increase of \$1.3 billion. Additional funding may be allocated to agencies during the year from Pandemic Recovery Contingencies, which may result in higher actual spending in 2022/23.

School district spending is projected to increase from \$7.48 billion in 2021/22 to \$7.75 billion in 2024/25, an increase of over \$266 million. This increase is primarily due to increasing staffing and operating costs related to higher projected student enrolment.

Post-secondary institution spending is projected to rise from \$7.32 billion in 2021/22 to \$8.2 billion by 2024/25 — an increase of \$879 million. The spending increase is primarily due to higher staffing and operating costs related to higher enrolment.

Health authority and hospital society spending, after adjusting for approximately \$2 billion in pandemic spending in the current year, is projected to increase from \$18.7 billion in 2021/22 to \$20.5 billion in 2024/25 an increase of \$1.8 billion over the fiscal plan period. This spending increase is to fund increasing staffing and operating costs incurred to meet the projected volume growth in healthcare services delivered by these organizations.

Projected spending by other service delivery agencies is forecast to remain stable around \$7 billion over the fiscal plan. This spending relates mainly to services in the transportation, social services, and housing sectors.

For a presentation of the government's consolidated spending in various sectors please see Table A11 Expense by Function on page 174. The expense by function table combines the spending by ministries and service delivery agencies in sectors such as health, education, social services, transportation, and others.

Table 1.3 Expense by Ministry, Program and Agency

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22 ¹	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Office of the Premier	15	15	15	15
Advanced Education and Skills Training	2,577	2,613	2,597	2,598
Agriculture and Food	99	107	108	108
Attorney General	1,273	1,374	1,402	1,428
Children and Family Development	1,662	1,742	1,756	1,768
Citizens' Services	604	657	663	663
Education and Child Care.....	7,845	8,217	8,226	8,262
Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	108	112	121	113
Environment and Climate Change Strategy	313	368	415	551
Finance	1,399	1,221	966	973
Forests	1,453	832	846	865
Health	23,882	25,456	26,243	27,047
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	177	178	194	186
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation	107	111	111	111
Labour	17	17	17	17
Land, Water and Resource Stewardship.....	82	92	99	99
Mental Health and Addictions	21	25	25	25
Municipal Affairs	308	260	262	261
Public Safety and Solicitor General	1,423	1,394	1,007	1,008
Social Development and Poverty Reduction	4,360	4,456	4,490	4,511
Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport	171	173	173	173
Transportation and Infrastructure	916	956	956	953
Total ministries and Office of the Premier	48,812	50,376	50,692	51,735
Management of public funds and debt	1,285	1,378	1,555	1,751
Contingencies - General Programs and CleanBC.....	1,000	2,848	3,412	3,987
Pandemic Recovery Contingencies	3,250	2,000	1,000	-
Funding for capital expenditures	2,595	3,734	3,910	4,353
Refundable tax credit transfers	1,846	2,044	2,142	2,224
Legislative Assembly and other appropriations	175	185	180	177
Total appropriations	58,963	62,565	62,891	64,227
Elimination of transactions between appropriations ²	(15)	(17)	(20)	(21)
Prior year liability adjustments	(13)	-	-	-
Consolidated revenue fund expense	58,935	62,548	62,871	64,206
Expenses recovered from external entities	3,864	4,011	3,739	3,641
Funding provided to service delivery agencies	(35,303)	(35,863)	(36,307)	(36,830)
Total direct program spending	27,496	30,696	30,303	31,017
Service delivery agency expense ³:				
School districts	7,484	7,733	7,742	7,750
Universities	5,812	6,154	6,383	6,559
Colleges and institutes	1,512	1,528	1,590	1,644
Health authorities and hospital societies	20,675	19,644	20,434	20,511
Other service delivery agencies	6,724	7,258	6,907	7,025
Total service delivery agency expense	42,207	42,317	43,056	43,489
Total expense	69,703	73,013	73,359	74,506

¹ Restated to reflect government's current organization and accounting policies. There are a number of ministry reorganizations effective April 1, 2022, with major changes including the transfer of Child Care programs to the Ministry of Education and Child Care (formerly Education), and the establishment of the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship with programs transferred from other ministries. For a presentation of 2021/22 expense forecasts before the reorganization, please see Table 4.8 on page 137.

² Reflects payments made under an agreement where an expense from a voted appropriation is recorded as revenue by a special account.

³ The 2021/22 spending for service delivery agencies includes funding that was provided during the year from ministries' budget and contingencies. Similarly, spending forecasts for 2022/23 and future years may also be revised as ministry funding amounts are updated in-year.

Table 1.4 Revenue by Source

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Taxation revenue				
Personal income	13,680	12,848	13,360	13,955
Corporate income	5,064	5,501	5,827	6,455
Employer health	2,130	2,257	2,349	2,441
Sales ¹	8,441	9,009	9,546	9,928
Fuel	1,039	1,051	1,059	1,068
Carbon	2,048	2,311	2,348	2,384
Tobacco	740	760	760	760
Property	3,020	3,173	3,354	3,514
Property transfer	3,250	2,500	2,406	2,461
Insurance premium	640	660	670	680
	40,052	40,070	41,679	43,646
Natural resource revenue				
Natural gas royalties	749	911	691	580
Forests	1,847	1,121	887	909
Other natural resources ²	1,527	1,355	1,220	1,117
	4,123	3,387	2,798	2,606
Other revenue				
Post-secondary education fees	2,539	2,679	2,779	2,859
Other fees and licences ³	2,185	2,207	2,203	2,166
Investment earnings	1,369	1,298	1,344	1,344
Miscellaneous ⁴	3,457	3,807	3,884	3,945
	9,550	9,991	10,210	10,314
Contributions from the federal government				
Health and social transfers	8,534	8,363	8,932	9,343
COVID-19 related funding	322	40	-	-
Other federal government contributions ⁵	2,626	2,937	2,810	2,589
	11,482	11,340	11,742	11,932
Commercial Crown corporation net income				
BC Hydro	681	712	712	712
Liquor Distribution Branch	1,153	1,166	1,198	1,225
BC Lottery Corporation ⁶	1,129	1,415	1,450	1,457
ICBC	1,904	327	240	280
Other ⁷	146	144	148	153
	5,013	3,764	3,748	3,827
Total revenue	70,220	68,552	70,177	72,325

¹ Includes provincial sales tax and HST/PST housing transition tax related to prior years.

² Columbia River Treaty, Crown land tenures, other energy and minerals, water rental, and other resources.

³ Health-care-related, motor vehicle, and other fees.

⁴ Includes reimbursements for health care and other services provided to external agencies, and other recoveries.

⁵ Includes contributions for health, education, community development, housing and social service programs, and transportation projects.

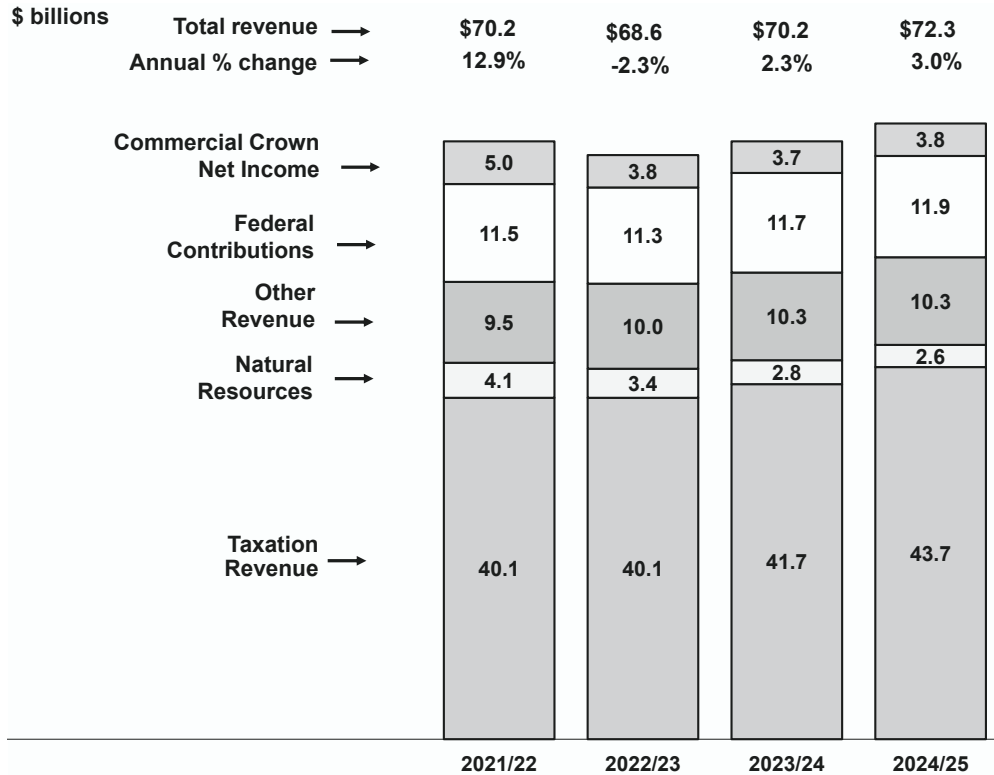
⁶ Net of payments to the federal government and payments under the gaming revenue sharing agreement with First Nations.

⁷ Includes Columbia Power Corporation, BC Railway Company, Columbia Basin power projects, and other agencies' self-supported subsidiaries.

Revenue

Total revenue is expected to decline 2.3 per cent in 2022/23 followed by an increase of 2.3 per cent in 2023/24 and 3.0 per cent in 2024/25. This reflects the effects of one-time revenues recorded in 2021/22 and steadily declining natural resource revenues over the three-year fiscal plan, following higher than usual commodity prices in 2021. Taxation revenues incorporate the impact of revenue measures detailed in Part 2: Tax Measures. Revenue growth in taxation, federal government contributions and other sources is partly offset by declining revenue from natural resources and commercial Crown corporations.

Chart 1.2 Revenue Forecast



Revenue growth in taxation sources averages 2.9 per cent over the three-year fiscal plan period. B.C. and the federal government continue to support business competitiveness in the face of ongoing global developments through corporate income tax relief. B.C. continues to provide incentives for investment in capital assets, such as buildings, machinery and equipment. Taxation revenue is projected to be flat in 2022/23 as the impacts of economic growth and policy measures are offset by one-time revenues that are assumed to not carry forward. Taxation revenue is forecast to average 4.4 per cent annual growth over the last two years of the plan, in line with nominal GDP growth.

Natural resource revenue is forecast to decline by 17.9 per cent in 2022/23 as lower revenues from forests, mining, bonus bids and rents on drilling licences and leases are partly offset by increased revenue from natural gas royalties, electricity sales under the Columbia River Treaty and water rentals. Revenue is expected to decline on average over the next two years by 12.3 per cent mainly reflecting the effects of declining commodity prices and forest harvest volumes. The forecast incorporates estimates of the old-growth deferral and the recent Supreme Court of B.C. decision that the cumulative impacts of industrial development infringed Blueberry River First Nations' ability to exercise their Treaty 8 rights.

Table 1.5.1 Comparison of Major Factors Underlying Revenue

Calendar Year Per cent growth unless otherwise indicated	February 22, 2022				April 20, 2021			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Real GDP	5.0	4.0	2.5	2.1	4.4	3.8	2.2	2.1
Nominal GDP	12.4	5.8	4.1	4.0	6.4	5.4	4.0	3.9
Household income	4.9	3.6	3.9	3.7	0.8	2.8	3.4	3.6
Wages and salaries	10.7	6.0	4.1	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.7	3.6
Corporations net operating surplus	13.6	0.8	4.3	4.0	9.2	8.8	3.3	3.0
Employment	6.6	2.8	1.6	1.2	4.7	2.4	1.6	1.3
Consumer expenditures on durable goods	17.9	3.4	1.3	2.1	2.6	3.1	2.8	3.0
Consumer expenditures on goods and services	7.7	8.1	6.6	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.7	4.9
Business investment	16.9	3.9	6.2	4.8	5.6	6.4	6.3	6.1
Residential investment	23.2	0.9	5.8	3.8	3.5	4.6	4.8	3.0
Retail sales	12.8	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.2
Residential sales value	57.7	-19.6	-5.1	2.2	8.0	-3.3	-2.7	2.2
B.C. Housing starts	25.6	-20.1	-5.3	-2.7	-8.6	-3.0	-1.3	-3.0
U.S. Housing starts	15.6	-7.2	-5.4	-1.4	3.6	-1.4	-2.1	-2.2
SPF 2x4 price (\$US/thousand board feet)	\$883	\$575	\$475	\$450	\$650	\$475	\$450	\$400
Exchange rate (US cents/Canadian dollar)	79.8	79.9	79.3	78.9	79.0	79.0	78.0	78.0
Fiscal Year	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Natural gas price (\$Cdn/GJ at plant inlet)	\$2.38	\$2.09	\$1.67	\$1.55	\$1.48	\$1.48	\$1.50	\$1.55
Bonus bid average bid price per hectare (\$)	\$660	\$275	\$275	\$300	\$0	\$200	\$300	\$300
Electricity price (\$US/mega-watt hour, Mid-C)	\$53	\$58	\$57	\$51	\$37	\$34	\$33	\$32
Metallurgical coal price (\$US/tonne, fob Australia)	\$223	\$202	\$163	\$158	\$136	\$145	\$148	\$150
Copper price (\$US/lb)	\$4.30	\$3.95	\$3.73	\$3.57	\$3.52	\$3.35	\$3.20	\$3.18
Average stumpage rates (\$Cdn/cubic metre)	\$37.14	\$25.04	\$20.71	\$20.75	\$24.21	\$19.05	\$18.36	\$18.27
Crown harvest volumes (million cubic metres)	45.0	40.0	38.5	39.5	46.0	45.0	45.0	45.0

Other revenue consists of fees, licences, investment earnings and other miscellaneous sources, incorporating estimates provided by ministries and taxpayer-supported agencies. Over the next three years, these revenues are projected to average 2.6 per cent annual growth, slightly above the *Budget 2022* real GDP outlook.

Federal government contributions are forecast to decline by 1.2 per cent in 2022/23 mainly due to the inclusion of pandemic relief one-time federal government funding in the 2021/22 forecast. Federal contributions are expected to increase by 2.6 per cent annually over the next two years mainly due to expected increases in the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) and the Canada Social Transfer (CST) disbursements. The combined CHT and CST contributions are forecast to average 5.7 per cent annual growth over next two years in the fiscal plan and represent about 76 per cent of total federal government contributions. Other federal government transfers are projected to decline at an average of 4.2 per cent annually over the three-year fiscal plan.

Major Revenue Sources

Key assumptions and sensitivities relating to revenue are provided in Appendix Table A5. The assumptions and factors that are the major drivers for preparing projections of individual revenue sources include sensitivities which provide a sense of potential impacts to revenue projections if there are changes to these underlying assumptions and factors. The following text references the forecasts of these assumptions and factors in explaining individual revenue sources. An analysis of historical volatility of the economic variables related to revenue sources can be found in the *2021 British Columbia Financial and Economic Review* (pages 16-17). The major revenue components are detailed below.

Taxation revenue

Personal income tax revenue declines 6.1 per cent in 2022/23 mainly due to an unusual high prior year accounting adjustment (\$1.3 billion) included in the 2021/22 forecast. The revenue growth is expected to average 4.2 per cent over the next two years, in line with projected increases in wages and salaries and household income.

Table 1.5.2 Corporate Income Tax Revenue

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Advance installments:				
– Payment share	14.17%	14.43%	14.33%	14.08%
– Installments	5,235	5,508	5,968	6,504
Prior-years' settlement payment	(171)	(7)	(141)	(49)
Corporate income tax revenue	5,064	5,501	5,827	6,455
Annual per cent growth	5.4%	8.6%	5.9%	10.8%

Corporate income tax revenue is mainly based on cash installments and settlement adjustments for prior years. Revenue is expected to grow 8.6 per cent in 2022/23 mainly due to increase in installments reflecting higher national corporate tax base and settlement payment for prior years. Average annual growth over the next two years is forecast to be 8.3 per cent due to annual increases in installments reflecting the federal government's projection of national corporate taxable income as well as annual changes in settlement payments relating to prior years.

Table 1.5.3 Sales Tax Revenue

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Provincial sales taxes	8,441	9,009	9,546	9,928
Annual per cent change (calendar year)	2021	2022	2023	2024
Consumer expenditures on durable goods	17.9%	3.4%	1.3%	2.1%
Consumer expenditures on goods and services	7.7%	8.1%	6.6%	5.2%
Residential investment	23.2%	0.9%	5.8%	3.8%
Government expenditures	6.5%	4.0%	1.0%	2.0%
Nominal GDP	12.4%	5.8%	4.1%	4.0%
Retail sales	12.8%	4.0%	3.7%	3.6%

Provincial sales tax revenue is expected to average 5.6 per cent growth annually over the three-year fiscal plan, in line with expected increases in nominal GDP and consumer expenditures on taxable goods and services. The forecast incorporates various tax measures, outlined in *Part 2: Tax Measures*.

Motor fuel tax revenue growth is expected to average 0.9 per cent annually over the three-year plan. Diesel volumes are forecast to grow 3.0 per cent in 2022 and 2.0 per cent annually from 2023 onwards. The forecast assumes that gasoline purchases are flat over the fiscal plan, while other fuel volumes rise in line with real GDP growth.

Carbon tax revenue is forecast to rise an average of 5.2 per cent annually over the next three years as the carbon tax rate increases from \$45/tonne of CO₂ equivalent emissions in 2021/22 to \$50 in 2022/23. Over the last two years of the fiscal plan, carbon tax revenue is projected to average 1.6 per cent growth, reflecting volume growth and no change in tax rates. The Province has committed to meeting or exceeding growth in the federal benchmark, and will evaluate the effects of the carbon tax on household affordability in line with the increasing federal carbon price requirements.

Tobacco tax revenue is projected to be relatively flat over the next three years.

Property tax revenue is expected to grow by an average of 5.2 per cent annually over the following three years, consistent with housing starts, non-residential investment and inflation.

Property transfer tax revenue is expected to decline at an average of 8.9 per cent annually over the three-year fiscal plan, consistent with the expected annual changes in residential sales values. In addition, due to the high market activity seen this year, \$450 million (slightly less than 15 per cent) is assumed to be one-time in 2021/22 and not expected to carry forward.

Employer health tax revenue is forecast at \$2.3 billion in 2022/23. Over the next two years, revenue growth is expected to average 4.0 per cent annually, consistent with growth in wages and salaries.

More information on tax measures is detailed in *Part 2: Tax Measures*.

Natural resource revenue

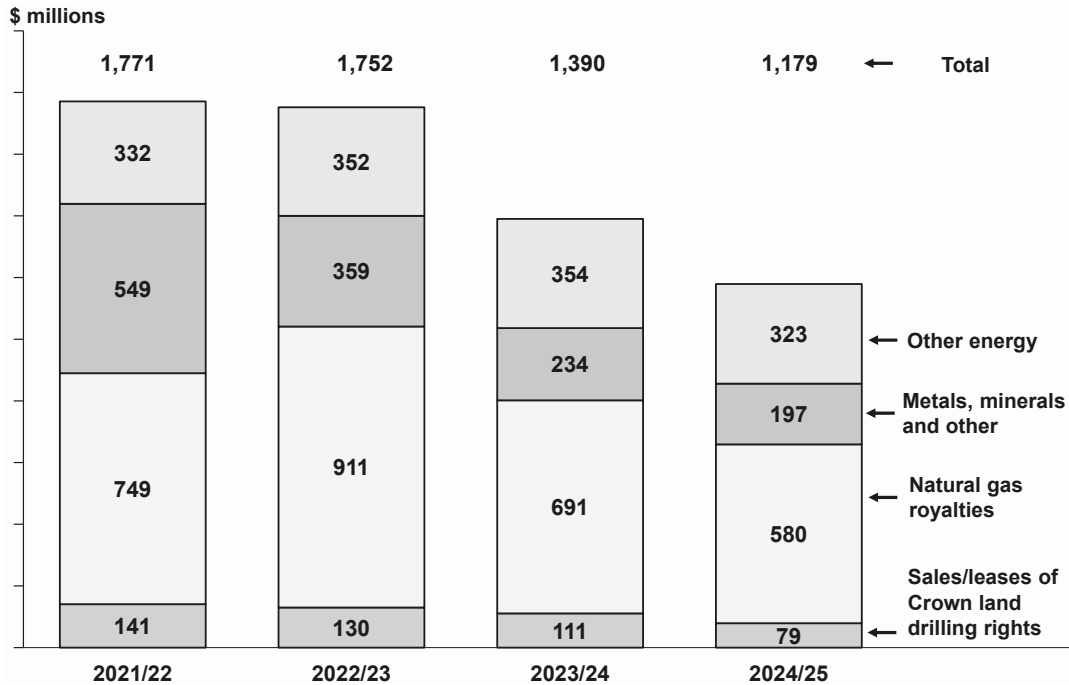
Natural gas royalties are expected to increase 21.6 per cent in 2022/23 mainly due to increased royalties from natural gas liquids, an improved outlook for natural gas production volumes and decreased utilization of royalty credit programs, partially offset by lower natural gas prices. Over the next two years, royalties are expected to decrease at a 20.2 per cent average annual rate as the effects of declining natural gas prices and decreased royalties from natural gas liquids are partially offset by increased production volumes and decreased utilization of royalty credit programs. The forecast is based on the existing royalty structure with no policy changes incorporated.

The forecast assumes an average price of \$2.09 (\$Cdn/gigajoule, plant inlet) in 2022/23, down from \$2.38 in 2021/22. This assumption is within the 20th percentile of the private sector forecasters, continuing the prudence incorporated since 2013/14. Prices are expected to decline over the next two years, averaging \$1.67 in 2023/24 and \$1.55 in 2024/25, consistent with the growth of the average of the private-sector forecasts. Over the three-year fiscal plan period, the projected natural gas prices average 32 cents lower than the average of the private-sector forecasters.

See Appendix Table A6 for more details regarding natural gas price forecasts.

Revenue from bonus bids and rents on drilling licences and leases is forecast to decline over the next three years, from \$141 million in 2021/22 to \$79 million in 2024/25. The decrease is due to declining deferred revenue. The bonus bid revenue recognition

Chart 1.3 Revenue from Energy, Metals, and Minerals



reflects ten-year deferral of cash receipts from the sale of Crown land tenures. Cash sales are expected to increase from \$2 million in 2022/23 to \$6 million in 2023/24 and 2024/25. More detail is provided in Appendix Table A5.

Mining and minerals: Revenue from mineral tax, fees and miscellaneous mining receipts is forecast to decline 34.6 percent in 2022/23 mainly due to lower metallurgical coal and copper prices compared to the elevated prices experienced in 2021/22. Declining coal and copper price forecasts reflect improved global access to supply in the post-pandemic period and assumed decreasing Chinese demand for coal. Over the next two years revenue is projected to average a 25.9 per cent annual decline mainly reflecting an assumed continuation of falling prices.

Other energy revenue is comprised of electricity sales under the Columbia River Treaty, petroleum royalties, and fees collected by the Oil and Gas Commission. These revenues are expected to decrease by an average of 0.9 per cent annually over the three-year fiscal plan mainly due to lower Mid-Columbia electricity prices.

Forest revenue is expected to decline 39.3 per cent in 2022/23 due to the impacts of lower Crown harvest volumes as well as lower overall stumpage rates and logging tax revenue mainly reflecting an assumed decrease in lumber prices from the historically high levels experienced in 2021. Forest revenue is expected to decline an average of 10 per cent over the next two years mainly due to lower overall stumpage rates and logging tax revenue, reflecting a lower outlook for lumber prices. Total harvest levels on Crown land are projected to decrease from 45 million cubic metres in 2021/22 to 39.5 million cubic metres in 2024/25. The reduction in harvest incorporates the impact of logging deferrals in old-growth forests. Over the four years to 2024/25, the forecast assumes that the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will recover \$194 million of stumpage revenue in support of funding the Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations.

Other natural resource revenue is comprised of water rentals and fees for hunting and fishing licences collected under the *Wildlife Act*. These revenues are expected to increase an average of 0.9 per cent annually over the next three years mainly reflecting higher water rentals collected under the *Water Sustainability Act*.

Other Taxpayer-supported Revenue

Fees and licences: Over the three-year fiscal plan, revenue from fees and licences is expected to average 2.1 per cent annual growth mainly due to increasing projections for post-secondary institutions, the K-12 sector and health authorities. Over the next three years, fee revenue projections from schools, universities, colleges, and health authorities (SUCH sector) account for 70 per cent of the total fee revenue forecast.

Investment earnings are expected to decline by 5.2 per cent in 2022/23 mainly due to decreased investment income earnings from universities, partly offset by higher recoveries through the fiscal agency loan program. Over the next two years investment income is expected to average 1.8 per cent annual growth mainly due to higher recoveries, which has an equal and offsetting lower expense, resulting in no net impact on the projected annual deficit. These recoveries are expected to comprise approximately 70 per cent of total investment earnings.

Miscellaneous revenue is projected to average 4.5 per cent annual growth over the fiscal plan period. Over 58 per cent of the total miscellaneous revenue of approximately \$3.8 billion is expected to be contributed by SUCH sector entities.

Federal Government Transfers

Canada Health Transfer and Canada Social Transfer contributions are expected to decline 2.0 percent in 2022/23 mainly due to an additional one-time \$542 million Canada Health Transfer (CHT) included in 2021/22 forecast, supporting the recovery of the health care systems following the pandemic. Over the next two years, contributions are expected to increase at a 5.7 per cent average annual rate mainly reflecting increasing national cash transfers and a rising B.C. population share of the national total. The plan assumes the national CHT cash disbursement increases 4.8 and 7.8 per cent in the first two years of the plan, followed by an increase of 4.9 per cent in 2024/25. The national CHT cash disbursement in 2022/23 is based on a three-year average (2020 to 2022) of Canada's nominal GDP growth. The forecast adopts the most recent federal government outlook for national nominal GDP. The national Canada Social Transfer cash disbursement is projected to increase 3.0 per cent annually, consistent with the federal government forecast.

Other federal government contributions are expected to remain flat in 2022/23 as the effects of the new *Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* (incorporated as ministry vote recovery) is offset by the elimination of one-time COVID pandemic-related funding in 2021/22. Over the next two years of the plan the forecast is expected to decline an average of 6.7 per cent mainly due to funding changes in support of local government, public transit, and under the *Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements*.

Table 1.5.4 Federal Government Contributions

(\$ millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Canada Health Transfer	6,424	6,183	6,681	7,021
Canada Social Transfer	2,110	2,180	2,251	2,322
Total Health and Social Transfers	8,534	8,363	8,932	9,343
COVID-19 related funding	322	40	-	-
Disaster Financial Assistance Agreements	3	28	162	17
Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund	13	2	-	-
BC Housing Management Commission	171	159	163	153
Ministry Vote Recoveries	1,381	1,612	1,449	1,394
Other Transfers to Ministries and Agencies	1,058	1,136	1,036	1,025
Total Other Contributions	2,626	2,937	2,810	2,589
Total Federal Government Contributions	11,482	11,340	11,742	11,932
BC share of national population (June 1)	13.62%	13.68%	13.71%	13.74%

Commercial Crown Corporations

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro): BC Hydro's net income is set by regulation at \$712 million in 2022/23, and is forecast at \$712 million in 2023/24 and 2024/25. The payment of dividends was phased out to assist with stabilizing rate increases and improve BC Hydro's capital structure to a 60:40 debt-to-equity ratio (currently 80:20). No dividend payments are forecast during the fiscal plan period.

British Columbia Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB): LDB is projecting a net income of \$1.166 billion in 2022/23 and growing to \$1.225 billion by 2024/25, an average annual increase of 2.1 per cent.

British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC): BCLC's net income is forecast to recover to pre-pandemic levels over the fiscal plan, from \$1.1 billion in 2021/22, to \$1.5 billion in 2024/25 (net of payments under the Province's gaming revenue sharing agreement with First Nations, and \$11 million in annual payments to the federal government). BCLC's forecasts are subject to an increased level of uncertainty due to the pandemic, and operations would be impacted by future health orders for reduced seating capacity in gaming facilities. Government will distribute approximately 23 per cent of its gaming income to charities, First Nations, and local governments.

Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC): ICBC is forecasting a net income of \$327 million in 2022/23, \$240 million in 2023/24, and \$280 million in 2024/25. On May 1, 2021 the corporation transitioned from a tort-based insurance model to the new enhanced care-based system. The forecast is subject to a number of financial and behavioural assumptions relating to the implementation of changes to the insurance model, and actual results could vary from these projections.

For more information relating to commercial Crown corporations, please see Service Plans listed on the *Budget 2022* website or the corporations' respective websites.

Capital Spending

In *Budget 2022*, capital spending on schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, hydro-electric projects and other infrastructure around the province is expected to total \$39.4 billion over the three-year fiscal plan period. These investments will help ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to deliver the services that people count on in communities around the province and create jobs that support a strong and sustainable economy.

Taxpayer-Supported Capital Spending

Taxpayer-supported capital spending over the next three years will total \$27.4 billion. This includes completion of existing approved projects along with new investments to expand and sustain provincial infrastructure including schools, post-secondary facilities, roads, bridges and hospitals. The *Budget 2022* three-year total is \$1.1 billion higher than *Budget 2021* mainly due to increasing capital spending on major projects in the health and transportation sectors, as well as revised timing for capital projects.

Table 1.6 Capital Spending

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Taxpayer-supported				
Education				
Schools (K–12)	1,036	1,082	1,063	955
Post-secondary institutions	1,054	1,237	1,539	1,482
Health	2,051	2,584	2,818	3,164
BC Transportation Financing Authority	1,716	2,644	2,528	2,038
BC Transit	82	178	291	293
Government ministries	457	755	492	441
Social housing ¹	672	572	426	254
Other ²	89	227	176	188
Total taxpayer-supported	7,157	9,279	9,333	8,815
Self-supported				
BC Hydro	3,632	4,131	4,244	2,967
Columbia Basin power projects ³	9	11	11	17
BC Railway Company	4	12	3	4
ICBC	68	60	45	41
BC Lottery Corporation	83	120	103	90
Liquor Distribution Branch	32	40	31	25
Total self-supported commercial	3,828	4,374	4,437	3,144
Total capital spending	10,985	13,653	13,770	11,959

¹ Includes BC Housing Management Commission and Provincial Rental Housing Corporation.

² Includes BC Pavilion Corporation, Royal BC Museum and other service delivery agencies.

³ Joint ventures of the Columbia Power Corporation and Columbia Basin Trust.

For more information on infrastructure investments and projects in planning, please see the topic box on page 35.

Investments in Schools

Over the three years of the fiscal plan, approximately \$3.1 billion will be invested to maintain, replace, renovate, or expand K-12 facilities. This includes continued investment in new school space to accommodate increasing enrolment in growth districts, as well as in the program to seismically upgrade or replace schools.

Examples of K-12 capital investments in *Budget 2022* include:

- Cowichan Secondary in the Cowichan Valley School District is being replaced under the Ministry of Education and Child Care's Seismic Mitigation Program. The 1,100-student-capacity secondary school will be located on a new site at Cowichan Place, roughly 400m from the existing school. The \$86-million replacement school is scheduled to be complete in 2024 and will be partially funded by the Cowichan Valley School District. The neighbourhood learning centre will include an Indigenous Language and Cultural Centre, Health and Wellness Centre, and School District 79 facilitation space.
- Henry Hudson Elementary in the Vancouver School District is being replaced under the ministry's Seismic Mitigation Program and will provide a 390-student-capacity replacement school, which is scheduled to complete in 2024. The new school has a total budget of \$40.7 million, which includes a \$1.1-million contribution from the Vancouver School District and \$10.0 million from the City of Vancouver. The replacement school will include low-carbon design features, neighbourhood learning centre space for before-and-after school care and a preschool, as well as a facility for child care services funded by the City of Vancouver.
- The new Regent Road Elementary School is currently under construction in the Surrey School District and will provide 655 new spaces for students in Grade K to 7. This new school has a total budget of \$33.3 million, which includes a \$5.8-million contribution from the Surrey School District. The school is designed to meet LEED gold standards and is scheduled to be complete in September 2022.
- The new Tà'talu Elementary School in the Surrey School District will provide 655 new spaces for students in Grade K to 7. This new school has a total budget of \$44.1 million, which includes a \$5.0-million contribution from the Surrey School District. The school will be designed to meet LEED gold standards and is scheduled to be complete in 2023. It will feature mass timber elements and a neighbourhood learning centre with space for child care services.
- The new Snokomish Elementary School in the Surrey School District will provide 655 new spaces for students in Grade K to 7. This new school has a total budget of \$43.9 million, which includes a \$5.0-million contribution from the Surrey School District. The school will be designed to exceed LEED gold standards and is scheduled to be complete in 2025.
- Cedar Hill Middle in the Greater Victoria School District is being replaced through the ministry's Seismic Mitigation Program. The \$46.5-million replacement will deliver a 575-capacity middle school by early 2025. The project budget includes \$3.6 million in additional funding from the Greater Victoria School Board. The replacement school will include low-carbon design features and neighbourhood learning centre space.

- The upgraded and renovated Gudangaay Tlaats'gaa Naay School in the Haida Gwaii School District will be made seismically safe, creating a Grade K to 12 school at the existing secondary school. The upgrades and new tsunami evacuation tower have a total budget of \$16.5 million and are scheduled to be complete in winter 2022. The project will reduce district costs associated with operating two separate facilities and will ensure that students are in safe seats.
- The new Parkcrest Elementary School in the Kamloops-Thompson School District will replace the previous school that was destroyed by a fire in 2019 and will provide 510 spaces for students in Grade K to 6. This new school has a budget of \$37.3 million, will be designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and annual energy costs and is scheduled to be complete in September 2024. It will feature a neighbourhood learning centre with space for child care services. The school will also feature a larger gymnasium funded by the City of Kamloops.
- Two new schools are currently being constructed for the Sooke School District. The \$89-million project is delivering a new 500-student-capacity Pexsisen Elementary and a new 700-student-capacity Centre Mountain Lellum Middle school. The elementary school will feature a neighbourhood learning centre, with space for child care services. The two new schools are scheduled to open in September 2022.
- The new Stride Avenue Elementary School in the Burnaby School District will replace the existing seismically vulnerable school and provide 390 safe seats when it is completed in January 2024. The new school has a total budget of \$25.8 million and will include greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies and feature a neighbourhood learning centre, with space for a Community Hub for Indigenous Learning and child care services.
- The new Glenmerry Elementary School in the Kootenay-Columbia School District will replace the existing facility and provide 435 spaces for students in Grade K to 7. This new school has a budget of \$33.6 million and will deliver a safe learning environment with more space to learn, while reducing the school's carbon footprint with a design that follows modern energy efficiency strategies. The school is scheduled to be complete in 2024. To further benefit families in Trail, the new Glenmerry will be home to a neighbourhood learning centre that will provide community programming, as well as before- and after-school child care services.
- The new Moody Elementary in the Coquitlam School District will be replaced under the ministry's Seismic Mitigation Program, will provide 385 safe seats for Grades K to 5 and will include enhanced greenhouse gas reduction strategies when it is completed in September 2024. The new school has a total budget of \$37.2 million, which includes a \$5.0-million contribution from the Coquitlam School District. Included in the project is a neighbourhood learning centre that will feature space for child care services.

Spending to Support Post-Secondary Education

Budget 2022 includes \$4.3 billion in total capital spending over the next three years by post-secondary institutions throughout the province. Investments in priority projects will build capacity and help meet the province's future workforce and economic development needs in key sectors, including health, science, trades and technology. A significant portion of this capital investment is funded through other sources, including foundations, donations, internal sources, revenues generated from services, and federal funding.

Current and planned investments in the post-secondary sector include:

- Construction of the \$163-million Trades and Technology Complex at the Burnaby campus of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. This project will modernize the tools and spaces needed to help meet the growing demand for skilled tradespeople in B.C.
- Construction of a new \$19-million Centre for Childhood Studies at Capilano University's North Vancouver campus.
- \$90 million for the expansion of the Engineering and Computer Science Building and construction of a new Engineering laboratory building at the University of Victoria supporting 500 additional tech-related seats for students in computer science and engineering programs.
- Construction of a new \$88-million health science building at British Columbia Institute of Technology's Burnaby campus. The new building will provide flexible simulation space for health education.
- \$27 million for the National Centre for Indigenous Laws as an addition to the Fraser Law building at the University of Victoria that will be home to the world's first joint degree in Indigenous legal orders and Canadian common law, as well as the Indigenous Law Research Unit.
- \$18 million for a new First Peoples Gathering House at Simon Fraser University's Burnaby campus, which contains a large Ceremonial Hall for ceremonies and learning events.
- The provincial student housing program, announced in 2018, to build approximately 5,000 new student housing beds at B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions. Examples of approved projects include:
 - \$25 million to construct two new student housing buildings with 148 beds at Selkirk College at the Nelson and Castlegar campuses;
 - \$68 million to construct five new mass timber student housing buildings with 376 beds at Okanagan College, across three campuses – Kelowna, Vernon and Salmon Arm;
 - \$114 million to build a 12-storey mass timber student housing building with 464 beds at the British Columbia Institute of Technology Burnaby campus;
 - \$229 million to construct two student housing buildings at the University of Victoria. The buildings include 621 net-new beds, a dining facility and multi-purpose program space; and
 - \$104 million to build a student housing building with 386 beds and to renovate and expand the current dining facility at the Simon Fraser University Burnaby campus.

- The B.C. Knowledge Development Fund provides capital investment funding for vital research infrastructure for public post-secondary institutions, teaching hospitals and affiliated non-profit agencies across the province, enabling institutions to attract researchers and skilled technicians. Examples of approved projects include:
 - \$8.7 million in B.C. Knowledge Development funding for specialized equipment to add isotope production capabilities at TRIUMF’s ARIEL facility at the University of British Columbia campus. The project will support the development of the next generation of medical isotopes and pioneer new approaches to conventional isotope production, which will advance medical imaging and targeted tumor therapy for cancer patients; expand B.C.-based commercialization of accelerator technologies; and attract world-class talent to B.C. This project, known as ARIEL II, is led by the University of Victoria in partnership with three other B.C. and 15 out-of-province universities.
 - \$2.2 million in B.C. Knowledge Development funding for specialized equipment to upgrade the Compute Canada’s CEDAR supercomputer located at Simon Fraser University’s Burnaby campus. The Tier-1 Data Centre is one of ten around the world that are part of the Worldwide Large Hadron Collider Computing Grid, an international network of high-performance computing facilities that store and process the massive volume of data from the ATLAS experiment at CERN, in Switzerland. The ATLAS experiment is an international collaborative particle physics experiment encompassing more than 3,000 scientists from 183 institutions in 38 countries. The computing facilities at Simon Fraser University are a vital component of the ATLAS research program and essential for breakthrough discoveries in particle physics research.
 - \$4.6 million in B.C. Knowledge Development funding to develop infrastructure to convert one block on the University of British Columbia Point Grey campus into an integrated energy system – the Clean Connected and Safe Transportation Testbed. The Testbed, a city-scale living laboratory, will emulate critical links between energy, transportation, information and communications technology and urban design that will be used to test how interactions between vehicles, infrastructure and pedestrians can be optimized to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The project is the first of its kind in the world.

Expanding and Upgrading Health Facilities

Capital spending on infrastructure in the health sector will total \$8.6 billion over the next three years. These investments support new major construction projects and upgrading of health facilities, medical and diagnostic equipment, and information management/technology systems. These investments are supported by funding from the Province as well as other sources, such as regional hospital districts and foundations.

Key capital investments in the health sector include:

- A new St. Paul’s Hospital at the Station Street site in Vancouver, which will include capacity for 548 inpatient beds, a new and larger emergency department, a surgical suite, consolidated specialty outpatient clinics and an underground parkade (\$2,174 million project budget). Construction started in March 2021 and the new hospital is expected to be open for patients in 2027.

- A net-new integrated hospital and cancer centre in Surrey to help meet the needs of a growing and aging population in the region (\$1,660 million total cost). The new hospital will include 168 inpatient beds, emergency department, medical imaging department including computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), surgical suite, pharmacy, laboratory, and academic space. The new cancer centre will include an oncology ambulatory care unit, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, functional imaging, and a new cyclotron. Construction is planned to begin in summer 2023 and the new facility is expected to be open for patients in summer 2027.
- Phase 2 of the Royal Columbian Hospital Redevelopment, which includes a new 348-bed acute care tower with six floors of inpatient beds, including critical care and maternity, a new and expanded emergency department, a new surgical and interventional suite with 18 operating rooms and an underground parkade (\$1,244 million total cost including Phase 3). Procurement started in fall 2018 and completed in 2020. Construction started in December 2020 and the new acute care tower is expected to open for patients in 2025 with final project costs in 2026.
- Replacement of the 54-year-old Cowichan District Hospital in Duncan with a new hospital on a greenfield site in North Cowichan (\$887 million total cost). The replacement hospital will increase inpatient beds from 134 to 201 and increase emergency department treatment spaces from 17 to 36. The facility will also increase the number of operating rooms, replace the mobile MRI with a fixed MRI, and add a helipad to the roof of the inpatient tower. Construction is expected to start in spring 2022 and be completed in 2026.
- Replacement of the Mills Memorial Hospital in Terrace, which was originally built in 1959 (\$623 million total cost). The new hospital will include 78 inpatient beds, an increase of 34 beds. Construction started in July 2021 and is expected to be completed in fall 2024. Demolition and site redevelopment will continue until 2026.
- Phase 1 of the Burnaby Hospital Redevelopment, which involves construction of a new patient care tower, new energy centre, renovation and expansion of the Support Facilities Building, minor renovation of the nursing tower and demolition of the West Wing and Cascade Buildings (\$612 million total cost). The new six-storey tower will accommodate relocated services, including medical and surgical inpatient services, outpatient services, a consolidated maternity/labour and delivery unit, and a mental health and substance use patient unit. Renovations and expansion of the support facilities building will improve access to care by providing additional operating rooms, a new medical device reprocessing department, additional parking, and renovations to key support services. Construction started in 2021 with construction of the new tower expected to be completed in 2025 and renovations to the Support Facilities Building and Nursing Tower expected to be completed in 2026 with final project costs in 2027.
- Replacement of the Dawson Creek and District Hospital on a 10-acre greenfield site on the north-west corner of the Northern Lights College campus in Dawson Creek (\$378 million total cost). The new hospital will include 70 inpatient beds, an increase of 24 beds. The emergency department, surgical and operating room space and ambulatory care services will also be expanded. Construction of the new hospital is expected to start in 2022 and be completed in 2026.
- Redevelopment of the Cariboo Memorial Hospital in Williams Lake (\$218 million total cost). The project includes construction of a three-storey addition and renovation of vacated spaces in the existing hospital. Once the project is complete, the redeveloped hospital will include 53 inpatient beds, an increase of 25 beds, and

a new and larger emergency department. Construction of the three-storey addition is planned to start in 2022 and expected to be completed in 2024. The renovations are planned to begin in 2024 and be completed in 2026.

- Replacement of the Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort St. James (\$116 million total cost). The hospital will be built on the same site as the existing one. Once complete, the existing facility will be demolished to make way for parking. The new hospital will be three times larger than the current facility. The project scope includes an emergency department with two treatment rooms, a trauma bay and ambulance bay, and a primary care centre that will consolidate services currently offered in Fort St. James. A preferred proponent was selected in 2021. Construction is expected to begin in 2022 and complete in 2024.
- Redevelopment of Richmond Hospital (\$861 million total cost). The redevelopment is a multi-phased project on the hospital site that includes a new acute care tower. The new acute care tower will replace the original North Tower, which opened in 1964. The redevelopment will result in 353 inpatient beds on the campus for an increase of 113 beds. The new acute care tower will include 216 beds (of the 353 beds), all of which will be single occupancy. Construction of the tower is expected to begin in 2024 and open for patients in 2028 with the renovations to the South Tower and demolition of the North Tower completing in 2031.

Supporting the Transportation Investment Plan

Budget 2022 includes further investments in government's Transportation Investment Plan. The Province has secured federal cost sharing on projects and has also leveraged investments through partnerships with private organizations. B.C. continues to work with federal and municipal governments to confirm priorities for funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and the recently announced permanent public transit fund.

Over the three years of the fiscal plan, transportation capital investments totaling \$8.0 billion will maintain the flow of people and goods to support the B.C. economy. Timing of capital spending on these projects is subject to several factors, including funding from partners such as the federal government infrastructure programs and market conditions.

Examples of key capital investments in the transportation sector include:

- Constructing the new eight-lane immersed tube Fraser River Tunnel that will replace the George Massey Tunnel on Highway 99, providing a toll-free crossing that aligns with regional interests and improves transit, cycling and walking connections across the Fraser River as part of the Highway 99 Tunnel Program.
- Constructing the Broadway Subway, which will add 5.7 kilometres of SkyTrain line and six stations, to provide frequent and reliable access to one of the most congested transit corridors in Metro Vancouver, meet current and future transportation needs, reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, and improve livability.
- Replacing the Pattullo Bridge with a new four-lane bridge (expandable to six-lanes) that meets current seismic and road design standards and the removal of the existing bridge. It will provide a safe and reliable crossing for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, and network connections in Surrey and New Westminster.

- Continuing to move ahead with the business plan of the Surrey-Langley SkyTrain project and advancing planning for the Highway 1 widening from Langley to Whatcom Road in Abbotsford project, to meet the needs of growing regions and ease congestion in key corridors.
- Four-laning the final 4.8 kilometres of the 26-kilometre section of Highway 1 through the Kicking Horse Canyon between Highway 95 and the western boundary of Yoho National Park to improve safety and reliability, and facilitate the movement of goods.
- Four-laning several sections of Highway 1 between Kamloops and Golden to improve safety and traffic flow and renew aging infrastructure, including: Chase Creek Road to Chase Creek Bridge (Chase); 1st Avenue SW to 10th Street SW (Salmon Arm); Quartz Creek Bridge replacement (west of Golden); and Ford Road to Tappen Valley Road and R.W. Bruhn Bridge replacement (Sicamous).
- Widening ten kilometres of Highway 1 through Langley between 216th Street and 264th Street to accommodate new high-occupancy vehicle lanes, including reconfiguring the 232nd Street interchange, new underpasses at Glover Road and the CP Rail crossing and a truck parking lot near Highways 1 and 17 for up to 150 commercial trucks and 45 passenger vehicles.
- Improvements along highway corridors in Delta to increase travel safety and efficiency, including: upgrading the Highway 91 at Nordel Interchange; Highway 91 Connector at Nordel Way intersection; Highway 17 at 80th Street intersection (Tilbury); 27B Avenue On-Ramp to Deltaport Way and 27B Avenue between Deltaport Way and 41B Street; and a new interchange at Highway 17 and Highway 91 Connector (Sunbury).
- Improvements to Highway 14 along the southern coast of Vancouver Island to improve safety and traffic flow and facilitate transit usage, including: widening and realigning 1.5 kilometres between Glinz Lake Road and Connie Road; a new park-and-ride facility on Gillespie Road; and wider shoulders between Otter Point Road and Woodhaven Road.
- Construction of a flyover from Highway 17 northbound to Keating Cross Road westbound in Central Saanich to improve safety by eliminating left turn across highway traffic onto Keating Cross Road and realigning the southbound highway on-ramp.
- Constructing an electric-ready ferry vessel for service on Kootenay Lake and upgrading the Balfour and Kootenay Bay terminals. The new vessel will have almost twice the capacity of the existing MV *Balfour* and be able to carry between 50 and 60 vehicles.
- Constructing a 5.4 kilometre two-lane realignment of West Fraser Road to bypass a section through active slides that was washed-out in 2018 and provide a safe, reliable, and efficient roadway to get local people to and from their homes, schools, jobs and appointments, including a new bridge over Narcosli Creek and rock stabilization work.
- Upgrading intersections and providing passing lanes on provincial highway corridors to improve safety and traffic flow, improvements along Highway 97 between Racing and Quesnel-Hydraulic Roads in Quesnel and westbound passing lanes on Highway 16 near Broman Lake east of Topley and Toboggan Lake west of Smithers.
- Expansion of SkyTrain fleet and upgrades to stations and facilities in Metro Vancouver to serve rapidly growing transit demand and to support the Broadway Subway project.
- Procurement and delivery of the first 10 battery electric buses for use by BC Transit in Victoria to reduce carbon emissions and improve rider experience.

- Construction of the Victoria HandyDART Centre for use by BC Transit, which will facilitate growth of Victoria's bus system and support introducing a low-carbon fleet of vehicles that will enhance HandyDART services.

The public and private sectors will provide about \$8.0 billion for transportation operating and capital investments over the next three years, including:

- \$6.4 billion of provincial investment in transportation infrastructure; and
- \$1.6 billion of investment leveraged through federal cost sharing and partnerships with private organizations, local governments and other agencies.

Table 1.7 Provincial Transportation Investments

	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Fiscal Plan Total
Provincial investments:					
– Highway corridor rehabilitation	305	343	232	233	808
– Side road improvements	153	183	119	122	424
– Pattullo Bridge replacement	267	300	206	191	697
– Highway 1 to Alberta border	177	283	277	172	732
– Broadway Subway	260	411	374	136	921
– Highway 99 Tunnel Program ¹	34	91	149	318	558
– Transit Infrastructure ²	119	290	442	316	1,048
– Transportation and Trade Network Reliability	230	420	397	218	1,035
– Safety improvements	45	42	30	30	102
– Community and other programs	22	13	26	19	58
Total provincial investments	1,612	2,376	2,252	1,755	6,383
Investments funded through contributions from other partners	335	551	521	590	1,662
Total investments in transportation infrastructure³	1,947	2,927	2,773	2,345	8,045

¹ Includes the Fraser River Tunnel Project and Highway 99/Steveston Interchange, Transit and Cycling Improvements project.

² Includes notional funding for Surrey-Langley SkyTrain.

³ Total investments include operating and capital spending.

Ministry Capital Spending

Budget 2022 includes \$1.7 billion in capital spending by government ministries over the fiscal plan period. This will support investments in maintaining, upgrading and expanding infrastructure, such as provincial park amenities, courthouses, correctional centres, office buildings and information systems.

Current and planned capital investments made by government ministries include:

- A new Nanaimo Correctional Centre will be completed in 2024, replacing the existing 190-bed outdated correctional centre and increasing capacity with a 12-room unit for women. The centre will accommodate culturally responsive programming and is designed to the LEED gold standard.
- As part of the modernization and renewal of the Royal BC Museum, a new collections and research building will break ground in Colwood in 2022 with anticipated completion in 2025. The building will preserve, protect and provide better access to the human and natural history collections of British Columbia.

Capital Project Reserves

The Province has included \$245 million in project reserves in its three-year capital plan as a prudent planning measure. In addition to covering risks from unforeseen costs for ministry capital projects, the reserves may be used to fund emerging capital priorities of government ministries.

Financing Capital Projects

Provincial capital infrastructure spending is financed through a combination of sources:

- direct borrowing (debt financing);
- operating cash surplus;
- cost sharing with partners (e.g. federal government, regional hospital districts); and
- partnerships with the private sector (public-private partnerships, or P3s).

Self-Supported Capital Spending

Capital investments of self-supported commercial Crown agencies are projected to total almost \$12 billion over the fiscal plan period. Self-supported capital investments mainly include:

- \$11.3 billion (95 per cent) of total self-supported capital spending is for electrical generation, transmission and distribution projects to meet growing customer demand and to enhance reliability. Included in this total is construction of a third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River through the Site C project. BC Hydro's electricity system was largely built in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s and B.C.'s population and economy continue to grow. BC Hydro is upgrading and maintaining aging assets and building new infrastructure so that British Columbians continue to receive reliable and clean electricity.
- \$313 million will be used for BC Lottery Corporation projects, including replacement of key legacy business systems, expansion of the lottery distribution network, and acquisition of gaming equipment to support lottery, PlayNow internet gaming, casino and community gaming activities.
- \$146 million will be used for ICBC projects, including investment in information technology and facility maintenance and upgrades.
- \$96 million will be used for Liquor Distribution Branch projects, including investments for updates and improvements to liquor stores, expansion of cannabis stores, technology-related projects and ongoing operating equipment replacements.

Table 1.8 provides information on major capital projects, and further details on provincial capital investments are shown in the service plans of ministries and Crown agencies.

Projects Over \$50 Million

Approved major capital projects with multi-year budgets totaling \$50 million or more, including provincial funding, are shown in Table 1.8. Annual allocations of the budget for these projects are included as part of the provincial government's capital investment spending shown in Table 1.6.

In addition to financing through provincial sources, major projects may be cost-shared with the federal government, municipalities and regional districts, and/or the private sector. Total capital spending for these major projects is \$46.6 billion, reflecting provincial financing of \$41.3 billion, including internal sources and P3 liabilities, as well as \$5.3 billion in contributions from the federal government and other sources, including private donations.

Major capital investments include \$3.0 billion for K-12 school projects; \$982 million for post-secondary institutions; \$12.0 billion for health facilities; \$11.3 billion for major transportation capital infrastructure; \$924 million for projects in other sectors; \$18.4 billion for power generation and transmission capital projects by BC Hydro; and \$92 million for ICBC's Enhanced Care Coverage Program.

Since the *Second Quarterly Report*, the British Columbia Institute of Technology – Trades and Technology Complex project (\$163 million) was added to the table.

BC Hydro's Bridge River 2 units 5 and 6 upgrade project has been completed and is no longer listed in the table.

Other changes since the *Second Quarterly Report* include:

- Sheffield Elementary project's name changed to Coast Salish Elementary;
- Cowichan Secondary's anticipated total project cost increased from \$82 million to \$86 million to reflect updated costing. Internal borrowing increased from \$80 million to \$84 million;
- University of Victoria – Engineering and Computer Science Building Expansion project's year of completion was amended from 2023 to 2024 to reflect the revised project schedule;
- Highway 1 Quartz Creek Bridge Replacement project's year of completion was amended from 2023 to 2024 to reflect the revised project schedule;
- Highway 1 R.W. Bruhn Bridge project's year of completion was amended from 2023 to 2025 to reflect the revised project schedule;
- Highway 99 Improvements/Steveston Interchange project's name changed to Highway 99/Steveston Interchange, Transit and Cycling Improvements;
- George Massey Crossing project's name changed to Fraser River Tunnel Project;
- 6585 Sussex Ave – Affordable Rental Housing project's year of completion was amended from 2021 to 2022 to reflect the revised project schedule;
- BC Hydro's South Fraser transmission relocation project's anticipated total cost and internal borrowing amounts decreased from \$76 million to \$27 million to reflect the revised project cost;

- Supply Chain Applications project's anticipated total cost decreased from \$69 million to \$68 million due to a shorter system stabilization period than forecast;
- Bridge River 2 upgrade units 7 and 8 project's anticipated total cost decreased from \$85 million to \$78 million due to cost savings and incorporating project efficiencies learned from the Bridge River upgrade units 5 and 6 project;
- Downtown Vancouver Electricity Supply: West End strategic property purchase project's year of completion was amended from 2021 to 2022 due to a delay in acquiring rights-of-way; and
- ICBC's Enhanced Care Coverage Program's anticipated total project capital cost decreased from \$93 million to \$92 million based on the nature of the remaining work.

Table 1.8 Capital Expenditure Projects Greater Than \$50 million ¹

Note: Information in bold type denotes changes from the 2021/22 Second Quarterly Report released on November 22, 2021.

(\$ millions)	Year of Completion	Project	Estimated	Anticipated	Project Financing			
		Cost to Dec. 31, 2021	Cost to Complete	Total Cost	Internal/Borrowing	P3 Liability	Federal Gov't	Other Contrib'n's
Taxpayer-supported								
Schools								
Centennial Secondary ²	2017	59	2	61	61	-	-	-
Grandview Heights Secondary ²	2021	74	9	83	63	-	-	20
New Westminster Secondary ²	2021	89	18	107	107	-	-	-
Handsworth Secondary	2022	61	8	69	69	-	-	-
Pexsisen Elementary and Centre Mountain Lellum Middle	2022	48	41	89	89	-	-	-
Quesnel Junior School	2022	23	29	52	52	-	-	-
Coast Salish Elementary	2022	11	41	52	47	-	-	5
Stitó:s Lá:lé:m tot:it Elementary Middle School	2022	36	18	54	49	-	-	5
Burnaby North Secondary	2023	41	67	108	99	-	-	9
Eric Hamber Secondary	2023	28	78	106	94	-	-	12
Victoria High School	2023	33	47	80	77	-	-	3
Cowichan Secondary	2024	7	79	86	84	-	-	2
Seismic mitigation program ³	2030	1,032	994	2,026	2,026	-	-	-
Total schools		1,542	1,431	2,973	2,917	-	-	56
Post-secondary institutions								
Simon Fraser University – Energy Systems Engineering Building ^{2,4}	2019	125	1	126	45	-	45	36
British Columbia Institute of Technology – Health Sciences Centre for Advanced Simulation	2022	61	27	88	66	-	-	22
Simon Fraser University – Student Housing	2022	49	55	104	73	-	-	31
Okanagan College – Student Housing	2023	-	68	68	67	-	-	1
University of Victoria – Student Housing	2023	102	127	229	128	-	-	101
University of Victoria – Engineering and Computer Science Building Expansion	2024	3	87	90	65	-	-	25
British Columbia Institute of Technology – Student Housing	2024	2	112	114	108	-	-	6
British Columbia Institute of Technology – Trades and Technology Complex	2027	-	163	163	137	-	-	26
Total post-secondary institutions		342	640	982	689	-	45	248
Health facilities								
Children's and Women's Hospital ² – Direct procurement	2020	289	9	298	168	-	-	130
– P3 contract	2018	368	-	368	167	187	-	14
Royal Columbian Hospital – Phase 1 ²	2020	245	6	251	242	-	-	9
Red Fish Healing Centre for Mental Health and Addiction - ʔəqɪʔ ʔəwʔəneq leləm ²	2021	124	7	131	131	-	-	-
Vancouver General Hospital – Operating Rooms Renewal – Phase 1 ²	2021	93	9	102	35	-	-	67
Dogwood Complex Residential Care	2022	11	47	58	-	-	-	58
Peace Arch Hospital Renewal	2022	67	24	91	8	-	-	83
Penticton Regional Hospital – Patient Care Tower – Direct procurement	2022	51	25	76	18	-	-	58
– P3 contract	2019	232	-	232	-	139	-	93
Lions Gate Hospital – New Acute Care Facility	2024	4	306	310	144	-	-	166
Stuart Lake Hospital	2024	5	111	116	98	-	-	18
Royal Inland Hospital Patient Care Tower – Direct procurement	2025	20	109	129	39	-	-	90
– P3 contract	2022	278	10	288	-	164	-	124
Cariboo Memorial Hospital	2026	4	214	218	131	-	-	87

Health facilities continued on the next page



Table 1.8 Capital Expenditure Projects Greater Than \$50 million ¹

Note: Information in bold type denotes changes from the 2021/22 Second Quarterly Report released on November 22, 2021.

(\$ millions)	Year of Completion	Project	Estimated	Anticipated	Project Financing			
		Cost to Dec. 31, 2021	Cost to Complete	Total Cost	Internal/Borrowing	P3 Liability	Federal Gov't	Other Contrib'n's
Health facilities continued								
Cowichan District Hospital.....	2026	15	872	887	605	-	-	282
Dawson Creek and District Hospital.....	2026	3	375	378	247	-	-	131
Mills Memorial Hospital	2026	98	525	623	513	-	-	110
Royal Columbian Hospital – Phases 2 & 3	2026	186	1,058	1,244	1,182	-	-	62
Burnaby Hospital Redevelopment - Phase 1 ⁵	2027	14	598	612	578	-	-	34
New Surrey Hospital and Cancer Centre	2027	2	1,658	1,660	1,660	-	-	-
St Paul's Hospital	2027	30	2,144	2,174	1,327	-	-	847
Richmond Hospital	2031	-	861	861	791	-	-	70
Clinical and Systems Transformation	2025	573	130	703	702	-	-	1
iHealth Project – Vancouver Island Health Authority.....	2025	113	42	155	55	-	-	100
Total health facilities		2,825	9,140	11,965	8,841	490	-	2,634
Transportation								
Highway 91 Alex Fraser Bridge Capacity Improvements ²	2019	66	4	70	37	-	33	-
Highway 1 Illecillewaet Four-Laning and Brake Check improvements ²	2021	71	14	85	69	-	16	-
Highway 1 Lower Lynn Corridor improvements ²	2021	173	25	198	77	-	66	55
Highway 99 10-Mile Slide ²	2021	70	14	84	84	-	-	-
Highway 4 Kennedy Hill Safety Improvements.....	2022	41	13	54	40	-	14	-
Highway 14 Corridor improvements	2022	43	34	77	48	-	29	-
Highway 1 Chase Four-Laning	2023	59	161	220	208	-	12	-
Highway 1 Salmon Arm West	2023	67	88	155	124	-	31	-
Highway 91 to Highway 17 and Deltaport Way Corridor improvements	2023	157	103	260	87	-	82	91
Kootenay Lake ferry service upgrade.....	2023	36	49	85	68	-	17	-
West Fraser Road Realignment	2023	33	70	103	103	-	-	-
Highway 1 216th - 264th Street widening.....	2024	24	211	235	99	-	109	27
Highway 1 Ford Road to Tappen Valley Road Four-Laning	2024	5	238	243	161	-	82	-
Highway 1 Kicking Horse Canyon Phase 4 ⁶	2024	256	345	601	386	-	215	-
Highway 1 Quartz Creek Bridge Replacement.....	2024	26	95	121	71	-	50	-
Patullo Bridge Replacement ⁷	2024	419	958	1,377	1,076	301	-	-
Highway 1 R.W. Bruhn Bridge	2025	28	197	225	134	-	91	-
Broadway Subway ⁸	2025	633	2,194	2,827	1,380	450	897	100
Highway 99 / Steveston Interchange, Transit & Cycling Improvements ^{9,10}.....	2025	2	135	137	137	-	-	-
Fraser River Tunnel Project ^{9,11}.....	2030	3	4,145	4,148	4,148	-	-	-
Total transportation		2,212	9,093	11,305	8,537	751	1,744	273
Other taxpayer-supported								
Nanaimo Correctional Centre Replacement	2024	29	138	167	167	-	-	-
6585 Sussex Ave (Affordable Rental Housing).....	2022	43	32	75	43	-	-	32
Stanley New Fountain Hotel (Affordable Rental Housing).....	2022	51	18	69	19	-	-	50
13583 81st Ave (Affordable Rental Housing).....	2023	19	31	50	37	-	-	13
Crosstown (Supportive Housing Fund and Community Housing Fund).....	2023	7	65	72	61	-	-	11
58 W Hastings (Supportive Housing Fund).....	2024	1	157	158	61	-	19	78
Clark & 1st Ave (Affordable Rental Housing).....	2024	7	102	109	75	-	-	34
Royal BC Museum – Collections and Research Building	2025	19	206	224	224	-	-	-
Total other		176	749	924	687	-	19	218
Total taxpayer-supported		7,097	21,053	28,149	21,671	1,241	1,808	3,429



Table 1.8 Capital Expenditure Projects Greater Than \$50 million ¹

Note: Information in bold type denotes changes from the 2021/22 Second Quarterly Report released on November 22, 2021.

(\$ millions)	Year of Completion	Project Cost to Dec. 31, 2021	Estimated Cost to Complete	Anticipated Total Cost	Project Financing			
					Internal/Borrowing	P3 Liability	Federal Gov't	Other Contrib'n's
Power generation and transmission								
BC Hydro								
– John Hart generating station replacement ²	2019	978	1	979	979	-	-	-
– South Fraser transmission relocation project ¹²	TBD	27	-	27	27	-	-	-
– Supply Chain Applications project ²	2020	68	-	68	68	-	-	-
– Fort St. John and Taylor Electric Supply ²	2020	51	1	52	52	-	-	-
– UBC load increase stage 2 project ²	2020	52	4	56	56	-	-	-
– Peace Region Electricity Supply (PRES) project ^{2,13}	2021	214	2	216	216	-	TBD	-
– LNG Canada load interconnection project ²	2021	79	3	82	58	-	-	24
– Bridge River 2 upgrade units 7 and 8 project ²	2021	71	7	78	78	-	-	-
– Downtown Vancouver Electricity Supply:								
West End strategic property purchase	2022	68	13	81	81	-	-	-
– Wahleach refurbish generator project	2022	35	16	51	51	-	-	-
– Mica replace units 1 to 4 generator transformers project	2022	57	23	80	80	-	-	-
– G.M. Shrum G1 to 10 control system upgrade	2022	60	15	75	75	-	-	-
– Mount Lehman substation upgrade project	2023	40	18	58	58	-	-	-
– Street light replacement program	2023	27	48	75	75	-	-	-
– 5L063 Telkwa relocation project	2023	25	41	66	66	-	-	-
– Mica modernize controls project	2023	37	19	56	56	-	-	-
– Capilano substation upgrade project	2024	26	61	87	87	-	-	-
– Vancouver Island radio system project	2024	31	22	53	53	-	-	-
– Sperling substation (SPG) metalclad switchgear replacement project	2025	11	43	54	54	-	-	-
– Natal - 60-138 kV switchyard upgrade project	2025	5	79	84	84	-	-	-
– Site C project ¹⁴	2025	8,359	7,641	16,000	16,000	-	-	-
Total power generation and transmission		10,321	8,057	18,378	18,354	-	-	24
Other self-supported								
Enhanced Care Coverage Program (ICBC)	2022	91	1	92	92	-	-	-
Total self-supported		10,412	8,058	18,470	18,446	-	-	24
Total \$50 million projects		17,509	29,111	46,619	40,117	1,241	1,808	3,453

¹ Only projects that receive provincial funding and have been approved by Treasury Board and/or Crown corporation boards are included in this table. Ministry service plans may highlight projects that still require final approval. Capital costs reflect current government accounting policy.

² Assets have been put into service and only trailing costs remain.

³ The Seismic Mitigation Program consists of all spending to date on Phase 2 of the program and may include spending on projects greater than \$50 million included in the table above.

⁴ Simon Fraser University and private donors contributed \$26 million toward the project, and the university also contributed land valued at \$10 million.

⁵ The concept plan for Phase 2 of the Burnaby Hospital Redevelopment has been approved. Financial information will be added to the table upon business case approval.

⁶ Kicking Horse Canyon Project costs exclude \$11 million of past planning costs which are expensed.

⁷ Pattullo Bridge forecasted to open to the public in 2024 with old bridge decommissioning to follow. Forecasted amount reflects total expenditures including capitalized and expensed items.

⁸ The Broadway Subway Project forecast and value of costs incurred to date include the City of Vancouver in-kind contribution of land rights, in keeping with the approved project budget. Under current government accounting, purchased intangible assets are given accounting recognition, and contributed intangible assets, such as land use rights or licenses are not.

⁹ Project is part of the Highway 99 Tunnel Program.

¹⁰ Previously shown as the Highway 99 Improvements/Steveston Interchange project.

¹¹ Previously shown as the George Massey Crossing project. The Fraser River Tunnel is forecasted to open to the public in 2030 with the removal of the existing tunnel to follow.

¹² The anticipated total cost was previously reported as \$76 million. As a result of the announcement regarding Government's Fraser River Tunnel Project on August 18, 2021, BC Hydro is reassessing crossing options. Once this reassessment is complete, a revised estimate of the anticipated total cost for the resulting project will be provided.

¹³ The total cost represents the gross cost of the project and has not been netted for Federal Government contributions. The Federal Government's contribution amount is dependent on the final actual project costs and what costs are eligible under the agreement.

¹⁴ The approved updated project cost estimate is \$16 billion, with a project full in-service date of 2025 (first unit of power in-service December 2024). The anticipated project cost and cost to date include capital costs, charges subject to regulatory deferral and certain operating expenditures.

Provincial Debt

Table 1.9 Provincial Debt Summary¹

(\$ millions unless otherwise indicated)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Taxpayer-supported debt				
Provincial government				
Operating	5,719	10,411	12,644	13,741
Capital ²	37,058	40,573	44,578	49,360
Total provincial government	42,777	50,984	57,222	63,101
Taxpayer-supported entities				
BC Transportation Financing Authority	14,956	17,512	20,262	22,479
Health Authorities and Hospital Societies	1,869	1,831	1,787	1,739
Post Secondary institutions	899	888	966	950
Social Housing ³	958	1,932	2,665	2,113
Other	272	328	400	465
Total taxpayer-supported entities	18,954	22,491	26,080	27,745
Total taxpayer-supported debt	61,731	73,475	83,302	90,846
Self-supported debt	28,814	30,956	33,004	33,930
Total debt before forecast allowance	90,545	104,431	116,306	124,776
Forecast allowance ⁴	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total provincial debt	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776
Taxpayer-supported debt to GDP ratio	17.8%	20.0%	21.8%	22.8%
Total provincial debt to GDP ratio	26.3%	28.7%	30.6%	31.6%
Taxpayer-supported debt per capita (\$)	11,838	13,823	15,418	16,562
Taxpayer-supported interest bite (cents per dollar of revenue)	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.7

¹ Provincial debt is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking funds and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province.

² Includes debt incurred by the government to fund the building of capital assets in the education, health, social housing and other sectors.

³ Includes the BC Housing Management Commission and the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation. BC Housing Management Commission has been approved for up to \$2 billion for future borrowing to fund investments in affordable housing through HousingHub. The debt forecast reflects projects that have been approved as of December 2021.

⁴ Reflects the operating statement forecast allowance for each year (amounts are not cumulative). Since it is unknown as to which agency would require this debt, the forecast allowance is shown as a separate item over the plan.

Government obtains financing from outside sources mainly through debt instruments that are to be repaid on future dates. Total provincial debt is projected to increase by \$34.2 billion over the fiscal plan period to reach \$125.8 billion by 2024/25.

Taxpayer-supported debt is forecast to increase by \$29.1 billion to \$90.8 billion by 2024/25 to finance the annual operating deficits and to fund significant investments in capital infrastructure over the next three years, including \$4.2 billion borrowed for education projects (K-12 and post-secondary), \$5.6 billion for health facilities, \$7.7 billion for transportation sector projects, \$1.9 billion for social housing and \$1.7 billion for other service delivery agencies and general government.

Increasing debt levels are expected to result in increased debt metrics, with taxpayer-supported debt-to-GDP rising from 17.8% in 2021/22 to 22.8% at the end of the fiscal plan period. Despite the projected increase, B.C.'s debt metrics have improved significantly from *Budget 2021* due to a significantly reduced deficit in 2021/22 (see Chart 1.4).

The Province's operating results have generally been better than forecast, reflecting the prudence built into the budget and fiscal plan; as a result, actual debt levels have been lower than projected. Furthermore, changes in the timing of capital project spending may reduce borrowing requirements and debt needed to fund capital investments in the near term.

The self-supported debt of commercial Crown corporations is forecast to increase by \$5.1 billion over the fiscal plan period, ending at \$33.9 billion. This increase is mainly for capital investments related to improving and expanding British Columbia's hydroelectric generation assets.

In spite of the debt level increase, debt servicing costs remain at a historically low level due to prevailing low interest rates. A common metric of affordability is the interest bite, or the taxpayer-supported interest costs as a percentage of revenue, which is forecast at 2.8 per cent in 2021/22 and 3.7 per cent by 2024/25.

Government's borrowing requirements over the fiscal plan period are anticipated to total \$49.4 billion, which will finance government's operating and capital investments, as well as refinancing of debt maturities (see Table 1.10).

Chart 1.4 Debt to GDP

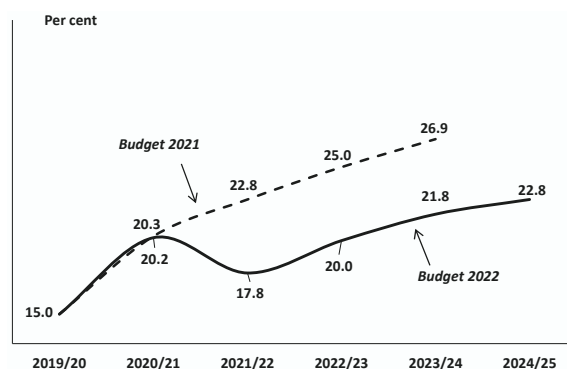


Chart 1.5 Debt Affordability

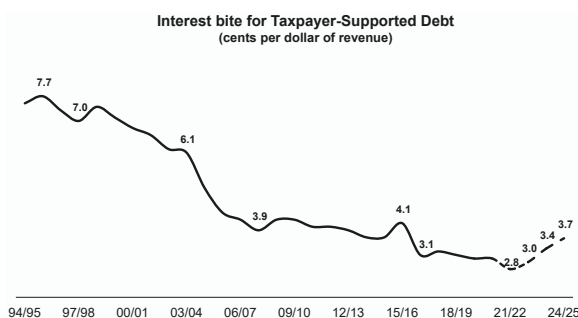


Table 1.10 Provincial Borrowing Requirements

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Total provincial debt¹ at beginning of year	87,100	91,545	105,431	117,306
New borrowing ²	8,025	19,013	16,402	13,994
Direct borrowing by Crown corporations and agencies	449	31	90	2
Retirement of debt ³	(5,029)	(5,158)	(4,617)	(5,526)
Change in forecast allowance	1,000	-	-	-
Net change in total debt	4,445	13,886	11,875	8,470
Total provincial debt¹ at year end	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776
Annual growth in debt (per cent)	5.1	15.2	11.3	7.2

¹ Provincial debt is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking funds and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province.

² New long-term borrowing plus net change in short-term debt.

³ Sinking fund contributions, sinking fund earnings and net maturities of long-term debt (after deduction of sinking fund balances for maturing issues).

Total provincial debt is presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking fund investments and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province. The reconciliation between provincial debt and the financial statement debt is shown in Appendix Table A16.

Additional details on government's outstanding debt are provided in Appendix Tables A17 to A19.

Relationship Between Surplus (Deficit) and Debt

In addition to operating results, the change in debt is affected by cash balance changes and other working capital changes, as well as the debt financing requirements of government's capital plan. Table 1.11 reconciles the forecast deficits with changes in debt.

Table 1.11 Provincial Debt Changes

(\$ millions)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25
Total provincial debt¹ at beginning of year	87,100	91,545	105,431	117,306
Taxpayer-supported debt changes				
Annual deficit	483	5,461	4,182	3,181
Non-cash items	(2,619)	(2,813)	(3,001)	(3,068)
Changes in cash balances ²	(3,271)	(599)	79	126
Changes in other working capital balances ³	231	416	(766)	(1,510)
Taxpayer-supported capital spending	7,157	9,279	9,333	8,815
Annual change in total taxpayer-supported debt	1,981	11,744	9,827	7,544
Self-supported debt changes				
Net operating cash flows	(2,364)	(2,232)	(2,389)	(2,218)
Commercial crown capital spending	3,828	4,374	4,437	3,144
Annual change in total self-supported debt	1,464	2,142	2,048	926
Annual change in forecast allowance	1,000	-	-	-
Annual change in total provincial debt	4,445	13,886	11,875	8,470
Total provincial debt¹ at year end	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776

¹ Provincial debt is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking funds and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province.

² Changes in cash balances include all cash balances from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, School Districts, Universities, Colleges, Health Authorities, Hospital Societies and other taxpayer-supported agencies.

³ Changes in other working capital balances include changes in accounts receivables, accounts payable, accrued liabilities, deferred revenue, investments, restricted assets and other assets.

Risks to the Fiscal Plan

Table 1.12 provides the estimated fiscal impacts of the identified sensitivities for some of the key variables in the fiscal plan projections on an individual basis. However, inter-relationships between the variables may cause the actual variances to be higher or lower than the estimates shown in the table. For example, an increase in the US/CDN dollar exchange rate may be partly offset by higher commodity prices.

The assumptions and risk sensitivities for individual revenue sources and major program areas can be found in Appendix Tables A5 and A6, beginning on page 160.

Table 1.12 Key Fiscal Sensitivities

Variable	Increases of	(\$ millions) Annual Fiscal Impact
Nominal GDP	1%	\$200 – \$300
Lumber prices (US\$/thousand board feet)	\$50	\$100 – \$150 ¹
Natural gas prices (Cdn\$/gigajoule)	25 cents	\$130 – \$150 ²
US exchange rate (US cent/Cdn \$)	1 cent	-\$25 to -\$50
Interest rates	1 percentage point	-\$185
Debt	\$500 million	-\$11 to -\$13

¹ Sensitivity relates to stumpage revenue only.

² Sensitivities can vary significantly especially at lower prices.

Own Source Revenue

The main areas that may affect own source revenue forecasts are B.C.'s overall economic performance, the relative health of its major trading partners, the exchange rate and commodity prices.

Revenues are sensitive to economic performance. For example, taxation and other revenue sources are driven by economic factors, such as household income, consumer expenditures, housing starts, employment, population growth and the exchange rate. The revenue forecast contained in the fiscal plan is based on the economic forecast detailed in *Part 3: British Columbia Economic Review and Outlook*. As well, it incorporates commodity price forecasts developed by the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation based on private sector information.

The continuation of investment incentives provided over the four years starting in 2019/20 due to B.C. joining with the federal government to enhance competitiveness assumes a behavioural response from businesses in acquisition of capital assets. Changes in the timing or strength of the B.C. business response could result in different impacts. Income-tax revenue forecasts are based on projections of household income and net operating surpluses of corporations. The forecasts are updated from reports on tax assessments provided by the Canada Revenue Agency. As a result, revenue estimates and tax credits can be affected by timing lags in the reporting of current and prior year tax assessments by the Canada Revenue Agency as well as the federal government estimates of national taxable income.

Natural resource revenues in British Columbia can also be volatile, largely due to the influence of the cyclical natural resource sector in the economy and the effects of the old growth strategy and the recent Supreme Court of B.C. decision on stakeholders. Changes in commodity prices, such as natural gas, lumber or coal may have a significant effect on natural resource revenues and economic growth.

Recently, the Supreme Court of B.C. issued a decision ruling that the cumulative impacts of industrial development, authorized by the Province of British Columbia, infringed Blueberry River First Nations' ability to exercise their Treaty 8 rights. The impact of this judgement on the Province's economic and fiscal outlooks are uncertain at this point, as the process for permitting industrial development in the impacted area over the long term is still being negotiated. There is uncertainty of the impacts on B.C.'s forest industry, First Nations and other sectors from the implementation of the old growth deferral strategy announced in the fall. There are risks to the natural resource revenue forecast from these developments, depending on the long-term reaction of affected industries and First Nations.

The economic and revenue forecasts could be affected by trade related issues, such as the ongoing U.S.-Canada softwood lumber dispute. The imposition of countervailing and anti-dumping duties by the U.S. on Canadian softwood lumber exports has the effects of increasing market uncertainty and volatility as well as increasing costs for Canadian producers. B.C. disagrees with the views that the lumber industry is subsidized or that it sells lumber into the U.S. at below cost or sales value in Canada, and is supporting the federal government in its appeals of the application of duties to the World Trade Organization and under Chapter 19 of the *North American Free Trade Agreement* and under Chapter 10 of the *Canada US Mexico Free Trade Agreement*.

Over the fiscal plan period, the outlook for forest revenue incorporates declining stumpage rates and rising interest rates. The impacts of the mountain pine beetle infestation, forest fires and the old-growth deferral strategy have reduced the supply of timber available to the forest industry. In addition, the industry continues to pay duties on their exports of softwood lumber products into the United States. As a result, some B.C. communities and residents that are reliant on the forest sector have been adversely affected by the continuing uncertainty and volatility. Actual results for a number of factors including assumptions for lumber prices, harvest volumes, interest and exchange rates could pose risks to the fiscal plan.

Details on major assumptions and sensitivities resulting from changes to those assumptions are outlined in Appendix Table A5.

Federal Government Contributions

Potential policy changes regarding federal government allocations, including health and social transfers and cost-sharing agreements, could affect the revenue and the expenditure forecasts. The expense incorporates preliminary estimates of the cost associated with the severe flooding experienced in November 2021. However, the forecast of federal government contributions does not include any support for these costs. Revenues could be higher depending on the timing of the determination of the expenses by the province and federal validation.

Crown Corporations

Crown corporations provided financial forecasts and statements of assumptions approved by their boards, which were used to prepare the fiscal plan. These forecasts, along with further details on assumptions and risks, are also included in the service plans of these corporations and agencies, being released with the budget.

SUCH Sector

The fiscal plan incorporates three-year projections for school districts, post-secondary institutions, and health authorities, based on plans submitted by those entities.

Health authorities have submitted an overall balanced financial plan for 2022/23 to 2024/25. The individual plans have been signed off by the board chairs of the respective health authorities. The Ministry of Health will continue to work with the health authorities to manage any emerging revenue and spending pressures.

Forecasts for the universities, colleges, and institutions have been signed off by chairs of the board or audit committee and lead financial officers.

Forecasts for the combined school districts have been compiled by the Ministry of Education and Child Care based on the requirements of the *School Act*, the current year plans developed by the school districts, and ministry policy assumptions respecting future funding allocations. Variances from these assumptions could impact the fiscal plan.

Spending

Government funds several demand-driven programs, including those delivered through third-party delivery agencies, such as health care, K-12 and post-secondary education, income assistance and community social services. The budgets for these programs reflect reasonable estimates of demand and other factors such as price inflation. If demand is higher than estimated, this will result in a spending pressure to be managed.

The spending plans for the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General include base amounts to fight wildfires and deal with floods and other public emergencies. Unanticipated or unpredictable occurrences may affect expenses in these ministries.

Increasing levels of debt result in a higher potential impact from the risk of interest rate increases.

Details on major assumptions and sensitivities resulting from changes to those assumptions are shown in Appendix Table A7 and in ministry service plans.

Capital Risks

The capital spending forecasts included in the fiscal plan may be affected by subsequent planning (i.e. design development) and procurement activities (i.e. receipt/review of construction bids) resulting in project costs that are higher than the initial approved budgets. For large capital projects, government will review the budget and scope risks, and the strategies to mitigate these risks.

Other risks affecting capital spending forecasts include:

- changes in the timing of capital project spending, which may reduce borrowing requirements and debt needed to fund capital investments in the near term;
- weather and geotechnical conditions, including the outcome of environmental impact studies, causing project delays and/or unexpected costs;
- changes in market conditions, including service demand, the impact of inflation on building material costs, the availability of, and wage rates for, skilled workers, and borrowing costs;
- the accuracy of capital project budget and construction schedule forecasts;
- the successful negotiation/timing of cost-sharing agreements with the federal government and other funding partners; and
- the timing and outcomes of public-private sector partnership negotiations.

Pending Litigation

The spending plan for the Ministry of the Attorney General contains provisions for payments under the *Crown Proceeding Act* based on estimates of expected claims, judgments and related costs of settlements likely to be incurred. Litigation developments may occur that are beyond the assumptions used in the plan (for example, higher-than-expected volumes, or size of claim amounts and timing of judgments and settlements). These developments may affect government revenues and/or expenditures in other ministries. Litigation may also impact government agencies and corporations.

Write-downs and Other Adjustments

Ministry budgets provide for anticipated levels of asset or loan write-downs where these expenses can be reasonably estimated. The overall spending forecast does not make allowance for extraordinary items other than the amount provided in the contingencies vote.

Prudence and Risk

The economic, financial, and external variables and factors that impact the estimates of revenues, expenditures, capital spending and debt will change throughout the year as new information becomes available with potentially material impacts. As a result, the actual operating surplus/deficit, capital expenditure and debt figures may differ from the current forecast. Government will continue to update the fiscal plan throughout the year.

Government incorporates four main levels of prudence to help mitigate risks to the budget plan projections. These prudence measures generally have resulted in government positively exceeding its budget targets.

- The *Budget 2022* economic outlook is lower than the average of the forecasts provided by the members of the Economic Forecast Council (EFC). The *Budget 2022* plan assumes annual real GDP growth of 4.0 per cent in 2022, 2.5 per cent in 2023, and range between 2.1 per cent and 2.4 per cent annually over the 2024 to 2026 period. This is lower than the EFC average by 0.2 percentage points in 2022, 2023 and 2024. The prudent outlook compared to the private sector acknowledges the downside risks to the economic forecast over the forecast horizon.

- The *Budget 2022* natural gas price forecast is lower than the private sector average over the next three years, reflecting the recommendation of Dr. Tim O’Neill in 2013 to adopt more caution in preparing the natural gas royalty forecast. Over the ensuing three years, the *Budget 2022* natural gas price projection averages 32 cents lower than the average of the private sector forecasters (see Appendix Table A6 for details).
- *Budget 2022* includes higher than normal forecast allowances, recognizing the increased forecasting uncertainty, with \$1.0 billion in each year of the fiscal plan. The forecast allowance helps offset the impacts of revenue volatility and statutory spending such as additional costs to fight wildfires and to deal with floods and other public emergencies.
- The *Budget 2022* expense forecast includes a General Programs Contingencies allocation of \$2.8 billion in 2022/23, \$3.4 billion in 2023/24 and \$4.0 million 2024/25. The contingencies allocation is a prudent measure to provide for unforeseen and unbudgeted costs that may arise, and to fund priority initiatives as well as CleanBC. Higher than normal contingency provisions is in recognition of the expected flood-related costs and public sector wage negotiations. In addition, *Budget 2022* includes Pandemic Recovery Contingencies of \$2.0 billion in 2022/23 and \$1.0 billion in 2023/24.

The EFC provides advice to the Minister of Finance annually on issues facing the global economy and B.C.’s economic outlook, including areas of concern, risks and opportunities for the B.C. economy. The Minister of Finance receives advice from staff and colleagues on the various levels of prudence incorporated in the fiscal plan, tax policy initiatives for consideration and the potential risks that could arise over the next three years. Since the risks could be ongoing or one-time in nature and could impact both revenues and expenditures, consideration is given to both the forecast allowance and contingencies vote allocations. However, since a number of these risks are not readily quantifiable, there is no specific formulaic approach in the determination of the forecast allowance and contingencies vote allocations.

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Table 2.1 Summary of Tax Measures

	Effective Date	Taxpayer Impacts	
		2022/23	2023/24
(\$ millions)			
Income Tax Act			
• Extend scientific research and experimental development tax credit.....	September 1, 2022	(120)	(216)
• Extend training tax credits.....	January 1, 2023	(6)	(22)
• Extend shipbuilding and ship repair industry tax credit	January 1, 2023	*	(1)
• Introduce temporary clean buildings tax credit.....	February 23, 2022	(2)	(20)
Small Business Venture Capital Act			
• Increase equity tax credit budget by \$2.5 million per year for investments in eligible clean technology businesses for three years.....	2022 tax year	(3)	(3)
Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act			
• Make exemption for strata accommodation properties permanent	January 1, 2022	-	-
• Expand exemption for hazardous or damaged residential property temporarily.....	2021 tax year	-	-
Motor Fuel Tax Act			
• Expand hydrogen exemption.....	February 23, 2022	(1)	(1)
Provincial Sales Tax Act			
• Introduce exemption for used zero-emission vehicles.....	February 23, 2022	(21)	(29)
• Increase passenger vehicle surtax threshold for zero-emission vehicles.....	February 23, 2022	(12)	(15)
• Introduce exemption for heat pumps.....	April 1, 2022	(8)	(8)
• Increase tax rate on fossil fuel heating equipment.....	April 1, 2022	9	9
• Remove exemption for tobacco	July 1, 2022	78	84
• Adjust purchase price of private vehicle sales for tax purposes.....	October 1, 2022	15	30
• Introduce tax collection, remittance, and reporting obligations for marketplace facilitators.....	July 1, 2022	100	120
Home Owner Grant Act			
• Increase threshold for home owner grant phase-out to \$1.975 million from \$1.625 million.....	January 1, 2022	*	*
School Act			
• Set provincial residential class school property tax rates.....	January 1, 2022	*	*
• Set provincial non-residential class school property tax rates.....	January 1, 2022	*	*
Taxation (Rural Area) Act			
• Set provincial rural area property tax rates.....	January 1, 2022	*	*
Various Acts			
• Various technical measures	Various	*	*
Total		29	(72)

* Denotes measures that have no material impact on taxpayers.

Tax Measures — Supplementary Information

*For more details on tax changes see:
www.gov.bc.ca/budgettaxchanges*

Income Tax Act

Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Credit Extended

The scientific research and experimental development tax credit is extended for five years to August 31, 2027.

The credit provides tax relief for businesses of all sizes and sectors that conduct research and development. Long-term economic growth resulting from research and development is expected to benefit all British Columbians. The majority of specified shareholders of corporations that receive the credit are individuals, of which 76 per cent are male.

Clean Buildings Tax Credit Introduced

Effective February 23, 2022, a new temporary tax credit for retrofits that improve the energy efficiency of multi-unit residential buildings with four or more dwellings and prescribed types of commercial buildings is introduced.

Taxpayers who improve the energy efficiency of the buildings to meet prescribed energy use targets after the retrofit is completed can receive a refundable tax credit of 5 per cent of eligible expenditures paid. The energy use targets have been developed specifically for B.C. and are generally comparable to ASHRAE Standard 100 target values, with variations in building categories. Eligible expenditures must be made before April 1, 2025, and under a contract entered into after February 22, 2022.

The temporary credit supports government's CleanBC plan by incentivizing energy efficiency upgrades that go above and beyond minimum requirements for existing buildings. Many existing buildings are expected to remain in use beyond 2050. Reducing a building's energy use can reduce its environmental impact. Improved energy efficiency can provide additional benefits such as increased affordability through reduced heating and cooling costs and improved health and comfort.

Training Tax Credits Extended

The training tax credits are extended for two years to the end of 2024. Most trades apprenticeship programs are male-dominated. An enhanced tax credit is available for First Nations individuals or persons with disabilities for all trade programs.

Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Industry Tax Credit Extended

The shipbuilding and ship repair industry tax credit is extended for two years to the end of 2024. The credit supports an industry with a predominantly male workforce. An enhanced tax credit is available for First Nations individuals or persons with disabilities for eligible trade programs.

Small Business Venture Capital Act

Equity Tax Credit Budget for Clean Technology Temporarily Increased

Effective for the 2022 to 2024 years, the total tax credit budget is also temporarily increased to \$41 million from \$38.5 million for the 2022 to 2024 calendar years. This \$2.5 million increase is being allocated to investments in clean technology businesses. Since the tax credit provides investors up to 30 per cent of equity investment, this change supports up to \$8.3 million in additional equity financing for qualifying corporations annually.

Seventy per cent of individuals who claim the small business venture capital tax credit are men. Approximately 33 per cent of credit recipients have a total income over \$200,000. The majority of credit recipients are between the ages of 30 and 70.

Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act

Exemption for Strata Accommodation Properties Made Permanent

The exemption for strata accommodation properties applies to a residential property that is defined in the *Assessment Act* as a strata accommodation property. The exemption was set to expire at the end of the 2021 tax year but is now made permanent.

A higher percentage of corporations claim the strata accommodation property exemption compared to the average of other exemptions. When the exemption is claimed by individual owners, these owners are older and are more likely to be male compared to the average for all exempt owners.

Exemption for Hazardous or Damaged Residential Property Temporarily Expanded

Effective for the 2021 tax year only, the exemption for hazardous or damaged residential property is expanded to apply to properties that were damaged by the floods in late 2021 in Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission. The exemption for hazardous or damaged residential property requires that a property is uninhabitable for a period of at least 60 days. The exemption is temporarily expanded to allow properties in Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission to claim the exemption, even if the property was uninhabitable for less than 60 days, if the disaster prevented them from claiming another exemption under the Act. The exemption is available in the following calendar year after the damage occurs if the residence is still not inhabitable before March 1.

Motor Fuel Tax Act

Hydrogen Exemption Expanded

Effective February 23, 2022, hydrogen fuel is classified as a Category 1 alternative motor fuel and is exempt from motor fuel tax provided that:

- the hydrogen is purchased for use in an internal combustion engine vehicle; and
- the hydrogen is not produced by electrolysis using coal-generated electricity, unless the carbon dioxide emitted as a result of the process is captured and stored or captured and sequestered.

While B.C. uses the carbon tax to put a price on emissions, the alternative motor fuel designation provides another framework for incentivizing the use of lower-emission

fuels. An alternative motor fuel exemption has been available for hydrogen used in fuel cell vehicles since 2009. Expanding the hydrogen exemption to include use in internal combustion engine vehicles recognizes that hydrogen produces no carbon when combusted and will help support the decarbonization of the transport sector.

The designation of any fuel as an alternative motor fuel is intended to be transitional in nature and subject to periodic review. Designations and/or tax rates may change as fuels gain market share.

The use of hydrogen in internal combustion engine vehicles is limited at this time. The initial beneficiaries will likely be businesses in the transportation sector employing heavy duty trucks. B.C.'s transportation and warehousing workforce is 79 per cent male. However, marginalized and equity-seeking groups will see long-term benefits from decarbonization, as research suggests that the effects of climate change put these groups at higher risk.

Provincial Sales Tax Act

Exemption for Used Zero-Emission Vehicles Introduced and Passenger Vehicle Surtax Threshold for Zero-Emission Vehicles Increased

Effective February 23, 2022, used zero-emission vehicles are exempt from provincial sales tax. The exemption applies to sales of all used zero-emission vehicles from motor dealers, as well as private sales of used zero-emission vehicles that have been driven for at least 6,000 kilometres. The exemption applies for five years to encourage consumers to adopt zero-emission vehicles and is scheduled to end on February 22, 2027.

Additionally, effective February 23, 2022, the passenger vehicle surtax threshold for zero-emission vehicles is increased to \$75,000 from \$55,000. This measure reflects that the capital cost of zero-emission vehicles is greater than the cost of comparable internal combustion engine models. The increased surtax threshold for zero-emission vehicles applies for five years to encourage consumers to adopt zero-emission vehicles and is scheduled to end on February 22, 2027.

The prevalence of zero-emission vehicle ownership is greatest among households with annual incomes over \$150,000. However, the majority of individuals from all income groups are considering buying a zero-emission vehicle in the future, including over 70 per cent of individuals with household incomes over \$50,000. Currently, zero-emission vehicle ownership is more common in the Vancouver Island/Coastal region and the Lower Mainland.

Exemption for Heat Pumps Introduced and Tax Rate on Fossil Fuel Heating Equipment Increased

Effective April 1, 2022, heat pumps are exempt from provincial sales tax. Most heat pump systems are electric and can heat or cool buildings or water by moving heat from one location to another. Switching a building from a fossil fuel heating system to a heat pump can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. If a heat pump is purchased before April 1, 2022 to fulfil a contract where the heat pump is affixed or installed into real property on or after April 1, 2022, the person who paid the provincial sales tax on the heat pump will be eligible to apply for a refund of that tax.

To further incentivize the switch to heat pumps, effective April 1, 2022, the provincial sales tax on a fossil fuel combustion system that heats or cools buildings or water is increased from 7 per cent to 12 per cent. Transitionally, fossil fuel combustion systems will generally be subject to an effective tax rate of 7 per cent where, in relation to contracts entered into before February 23, 2022, a fossil fuel combustion system is affixed or installed into real property on or after April 1, 2022. For contracts entered into on or after February 23, 2022, fossil fuel combustion systems will be subject to the 12 per cent rate if they are affixed or installed into real property on or after April 1, 2022. Detailed transition rules will be published by the Ministry of Finance.

Residential property makes up approximately 80 per cent of the sales value of space heating/cooling and water heating equipment. Because younger and lower-income individuals are less likely to own their own home, these individuals are less likely to be directly affected by these changes. However, marginalized and equity-seeking groups will see long-term benefits from decarbonization, as research suggests that the effects of climate change put these groups at higher risk.

Exemption for Tobacco Removed

Effective July 1, 2022, provincial sales tax is applied to tobacco. Applying provincial sales tax to tobacco will align B.C.'s tax policy with the majority of other provinces which, in addition to imposing a specific tobacco tax, apply either a provincial sales tax or the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax to tobacco.

Tobacco companies have increased pre-tax prices on cigarettes by approximately 220 per cent over the last 20 years. Applying provincial sales tax to tobacco will help government capture additional revenue when tobacco companies raise their prices. This additional revenue will help B.C. offset the costs to the healthcare system that result from tobacco consumption.

This measure will create an added incentive to reduce tobacco consumption, thus improving health outcomes. Smoking rates are higher among men and lower-income individuals. These populations will bear a greater proportion of the tax increase.

Purchase Price of Private Vehicle Sales for Tax Purposes Adjusted

Effective October 1, 2022, tax on private sales of motor vehicles will be based on the greater of the reported purchase price and the average wholesale value of the vehicle. This approach would align B.C.'s treatment of private vehicle sales with the majority of other provinces and is intended to address tax avoidance arising from the underreporting of the price of motor vehicles from private sales. The measure will not apply for motor vehicles involved in a trade-in.

Individuals involved in private vehicle transactions are more likely to be low to medium income, living in a rural area, and male.

Tax Collection, Remittance, and Reporting Obligations for Marketplace Facilitators Introduced

Effective July 1, 2022, businesses that facilitate sales or leases of certain goods, services or software for third parties through their online platform, including accepting payment from a consumer (“marketplace facilitators”), will be required to collect and remit tax on those sales and leases made in B.C. This obligation will apply to sales of taxable goods shipped from within Canada, taxable services (including short-term rentals and other taxable accommodation, but not including legal services), software, and leases of goods made through a marketplace facilitator. Sellers will be relieved of their obligation to collect and remit tax on sales and leases made through a marketplace facilitator.

Also effective July 1, 2022, marketplace facilitators will be required to charge provincial sales tax on marketplace facilitation services they provide to sellers.

The government will work over the coming months to expand the collection obligations to the sales of goods shipped from outside Canada to consumers in B.C.

The changes introduced in *Budget 2022* do not introduce new taxes on taxable goods, software or taxable services obtained by consumers through online platforms. The provincial sales tax already applied to these transactions. However, in some circumstances, the obligation to pay that tax to the government fell solely on the consumer and there were no matching obligations for sellers or marketplace facilitators to collect and remit that tax to the government. To the extent that consumers were unaware of, or did not fulfil, their obligation to pay provincial sales tax directly to the government, the new tax collection requirements will increase the effective cost of some transactions.

A similar proportion of men and women internet users purchased a good or service online in 2018. Over 93 per cent of internet users with annual household income greater than \$125,000 purchased goods online in 2018, compared to 70 per cent of those with annual household income of less than \$40,000.

School Act

Provincial Residential Class School Property Tax Rates Set

The longstanding rate-setting policy is that average residential class school property taxes, before application of the home owner grant, increase by the previous year’s provincial inflation rate. This rate-setting policy has been in place since 2003 and continues in 2022.

The tax rate policy seeks to achieve an equitable balance between taxpayers in different areas of the province. Tax rates are lower in school districts that have the highest average assessed values. Still, a residential taxpayer with an average home value in a school district with low average values pays less school tax on their home than a taxpayer with an average home value in a school district with higher average assessed values.

Provincial Non-Residential Class School Property Tax Rates Set

A single province-wide school property tax rate is set for each of the non-residential property classes. Consistent with longstanding policy, the rates for 2022, except for the rate for the industrial property classes, will be set so that non-residential class school

tax revenue will increase by inflation plus tax on new construction from the 2021 tax revenues. The major industry class tax rate and the light industry class tax rate will be set at the same rate as the business class tax rate, consistent with the policy announced in *Budget 2008*.

This rate-setting policy has been in place since 2005, except for the 2020 tax year when significant property tax relief was delivered to commercial property classes through a reduction in school property tax rates.

Effective for the 2023 taxation year, the provincial industrial property tax credit for class 4 major industry is removed. The 2023 major industry school tax rate will be reduced to offset the removal of the credit.

The industrial property tax credit was introduced for the 2009 tax year and has the same effect as simply setting a lower school tax rate for class 4 major industry. The credit mechanism is a trade irritant.

The personal characteristics of the owners of non-residential property are generally not collected or available through the property tax system. Businesses most affected by a property tax are those that rely on brick and mortar operations.

Taxation (Rural Area) Act

Provincial Rural Area Property Tax Rates Set

A single rural area residential property tax rate applies province-wide. The longstanding rate-setting policy that average residential rural property taxes increase by the previous year's provincial inflation rate continues for 2022.

Consistent with longstanding policy, non-residential rural area property tax rates are set so that total non-residential rural area tax revenue increases by inflation plus tax on new construction.

With the exception of utility and industrial properties in the Peace River Regional District, there is one rural tax rate per property class, province-wide. This means the tax falls more heavily in areas where average values are higher. The effect is relatively minor because average values do not vary widely in rural areas across B.C.

Various Acts

Various Technical Measures

Budget 2022 introduces a number of technical amendments to various enactments including the *Carbon Tax Act*, *Income Tax Act*, *Land Tax Deferral Act*, *Motor Fuel Tax Act*, *Property Transfer Tax Act*, *Provincial Sales Tax Act*, and the *Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act* for clarity and certainty:

- Effective February 23, 2022, the *Carbon Tax Act* and *Motor Fuel Tax Act* are amended to authorize the director to establish an annual period for tax reporting.
- Effective February 22, 2022, the *Income Tax Act's* production services tax credit is amended to extend the pre-certification filing deadline to 120 days after the production's first eligible accredited labour expenditure. Corporations intending to claim the production services tax credit will now have an additional 60 days to

notify the certifying authority of their intention to claim the tax credit. This will only apply to film productions incurring their first eligible accredited labour expenditure on or after February 22, 2022.

- Effective on royal assent, the *Income Tax Act* is amended to clarify the authority to disclose taxpayer information for the purposes of administering the *Employee Investment Act* and *Small Business Venture Capital Act*.
- The *Land Tax Deferment Act* is amended:
 - effective on royal assent, to allow the minister to delegate authority to a class of persons; and
 - effective April 1, 2022, to create a statutory appropriation for concessionary grant expenses.
- Effective on royal assent, the *Motor Fuel Tax Act* is amended to authorize the director to specify the form to be used as an application for a carrier licence under the International Fuel Tax Agreement.
- Effective April 1, 2022, the *Property Transfer Tax Act* is amended to clarify the authority of the administrator to make payments out of the consolidated revenue fund for refunds determined under the regulations.
- The *Provincial Sales Tax Act* is amended:
 - effective February 23, 2022, to clarify that gift cards and gift certificates are not subject to provincial sales tax when acquired;
 - effective April 1, 2013, to clarify the evidentiary requirements for real property contracts where the customer and the contractor agree that the customer is responsible for paying the provincial sales tax; and
 - effective on a date to be specified by regulation, to make minor changes to provisions related to tax payment agreements.
- Effective November 27, 2018, the *Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act* is amended to extend the deadlines to apply for a tax credit for eligible taxpayer by 90 days when a notice of assessment or a minister's notice of decision is given after the end of the normal application period.
- Effective October 1, 2022, the *Carbon Tax Act*, *Employer Health Tax Act*, *Home Owner Grant Act*, *Insurance Premium Tax Act*, *Logging Tax Act*, *Mineral Tax Act*, *Motor Fuel Tax Act*, *Net Profit Royalty Regulation*, *Petroleum and Natural Gas Royalty and Freehold Production Tax Regulation*, *Property Transfer Tax Act*, *Provincial Sales Tax Act*, *Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act* and *Tobacco Tax Act* are amended to standardize and clarify rules on filing appeals to the Minister of Finance.

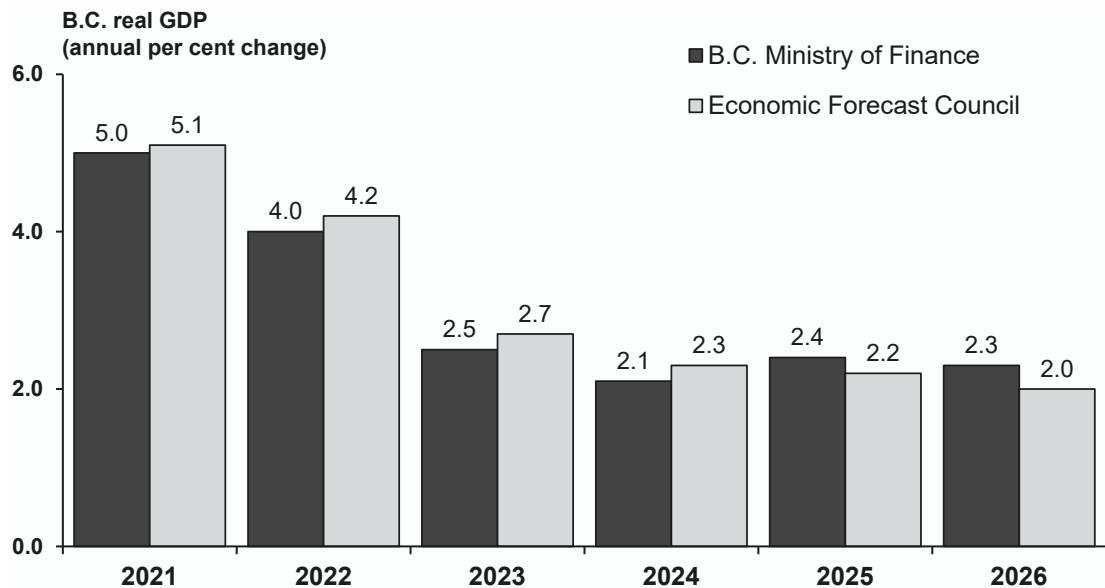
Summary

B.C.’s economy rebounded in 2021 from the initial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, despite significant pandemic and climate-related disruptions. The economy has proven resilient to pandemic interruptions, aided by government emergency response programs, cooperation with public health orders and a strong vaccination program, and easing of restrictions. While the recovery has broadened over the past year, it remains uneven with sectors like tourism, hospitality, recreation, and live events yet to fully recover. The path of the ongoing economic recovery in B.C. and its trading partners remains highly uncertain amid the evolution of the pandemic and supply-chain disruptions.

The November 2021 floods and landslides significantly impacted the lives and livelihoods of British Columbians, and exacerbated supply-chain disruptions. However, rapid infrastructure repairs quickly re-established important commercial transportation routes. Looking ahead, expenditures and hiring to permanently rebuild damaged infrastructure from the floods will have a positive effect on jobs and economic activity in the province.

The Ministry of Finance (Ministry) estimates that the economy expanded by 5.0 per cent in 2021, following a 3.4 per cent decline in 2020. The Ministry forecasts that the economy will expand by 4.0 per cent in 2022 and then 2.5 per cent in 2023. Over the medium-term (2024 to 2026), growth is expected to range between 2.1 per cent and 2.4 per cent annually. Underpinning the projected near-term recovery are the assumptions that large-scale immunization campaigns continue to be effective at preventing serious illness and the need for containment measures continues to abate, with responses varying by jurisdiction.

Chart 3.1 Ministry’s Outlook for B.C. Prudent Compared to Private Sector



¹ Reflects information available as of February 8, 2022, unless otherwise indicated.

The Ministry's forecast for B.C. real GDP growth is lower than the outlook provided by the Economic Forecast Council (EFC) from 2022 to 2024, with 0.2 percentage points of prudence in each year. This differential is one of the levels of prudence built into the fiscal plan. The Ministry's outlook for 2025 and 2026 is slightly higher than the average EFC forecast as LNG production is anticipated to provide more support to the economy over that period.

The main downside risk to B.C.'s economic outlook continues to be the uncertainty regarding the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and the degree to which it will have lasting effects on provincial, national, and global economies. Other risks include rising inflation, supply-chain disruptions, climate change impacts, global trade policies, and lower commodity prices.

British Columbia Economic Activity and Outlook

The province's economic outlook remains strong over the forecast horizon, although estimates of aggregate economic activity for last year are lower than previously forecast. The Ministry's estimate for B.C. real GDP growth in 2021 has been revised down to 5.0 per cent from the *First Quarterly Report* forecast of 6.0 per cent. This is due to weaker than expected growth among trading partners, weaker service sector activity, higher prices linked to supply-chain disruptions, and various public health restrictions through the fall delaying full reopening of the economy. Furthermore, the November floods and the spread of the Omicron variant weighed on economic activity at the end of 2021. While real GDP growth was revised down, nominal GDP growth for 2021 has been revised up, to 12.4 per cent from 11.0 per cent in the *First Quarterly Report*, due to inflationary pressures and elevated commodity prices.

Table 3.1 British Columbia Economic Indicators

	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Annual ¹
	Jul. to Sep. 2021 change from Apr. to Jun. 2021	Oct. to Dec. 2021 change from Jul. to Sep. 2021	Jan. to Dec. 2021 change from Jan. to Dec. 2020
All data seasonally adjusted, per cent change			
Employment	+1.3	+1.2	+6.6
Manufacturing shipments ²	-9.0	+1.0	+21.9
Exports	+0.3	+5.2	+36.1
Retail sales ²	-1.0	+0.4	+13.6
Consumer price index ^{1,3}	+3.4	+3.8	+2.8
Housing starts	-9.0	-5.8	+25.6
Residential sales units	-15.1	+8.5	+32.8
Residential average sale price	+1.7	+6.6	+18.7
Non-residential building permits	-20.2	+52.6	-1.4

¹ Non-seasonally adjusted data

² Data to November

³ Quarterly calculations for CPI are year-over-year, e.g. Third Quarter is Jul. to Sep. 2021 change from Jul. to Sep. 2020

Over the next two years, B.C. real GDP growth is forecast to be strong due to the continued reopening of the economy, recovery of the service sector, and increased economic activity associated with the flood rebuilding efforts. Strength in the labour market is expected to continue and the housing market is projected to be somewhat stronger, partly supported by stronger migration. Retail sales growth is expected to be somewhat lower as consumers rotate their spending away from goods towards services as the economy opens up further. On the trade front, exports are expected to see continued

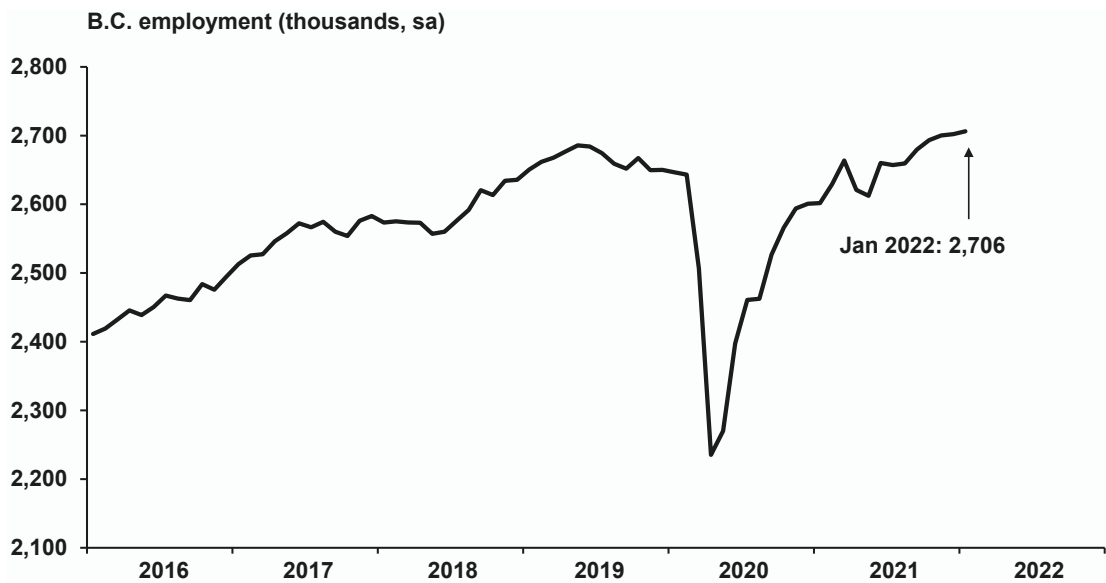
growth as the global economic recovery continues. Overall, private sector forecasters² project that B.C. will be one of the top performers in real GDP growth among the provinces in 2022 and 2023.

Labour Market

The labour market in B.C. strengthened significantly throughout 2021. Employment grew by 6.6 per cent in 2021, remaining above pre-pandemic levels since June, and was 2.4 per cent higher in January 2022 compared to pre-pandemic February 2020. Of the total 164,600 net new jobs created in 2021, 105,000 were full-time. The number of jobs created were mostly in the private sector (+152,700 jobs) with significant gains in the public sector (+38,500 jobs), whereas self-employed jobs declined (-26,600 jobs) for the second consecutive year. Employment gains were almost entirely due to a rebound in services-producing sectors (+162,800 jobs), where gains were broad-based, led by the health care and social assistance sector (+35,100 jobs), the wholesale and retail trade sector (+27,800 jobs), and the professional, scientific, and technical services sector (+24,100 jobs). The goods-producing sector grew modestly (+1,900 jobs) in 2021, where growth in the manufacturing sector (+11,400 jobs) offset declines in the agriculture sector (-7,900 jobs) and the construction sector (-5,800 jobs). In January 2022, employment grew by 4,200 jobs month-over-month (m/m), but as Omicron spread widely the proportion of employees absent from work due to illness or disability was 4.0 percentage points higher than a typical January.

B.C.'s unemployment rate averaged 6.5 per cent in 2021, following an average unemployment rate of 8.9 per cent in 2020, and the unemployment rate in January 2022 (5.1 per cent) was 0.1 percentage point below pre-pandemic levels (February 2020). B.C.'s long-term unemployment has also trended down since the peak observed in February 2021, but remains high by historical standards. Long-term unemployment is associated with the risks of skill erosion and labour market detachment.

Chart 3.2 B.C. Employment



Sources: Statistics Canada (Labour Force Survey); Haver Analytics

² A subset of the Economic Forecast Council that regularly forecasts economic performance in all provinces (BMO, CIBC, National Bank, RBC, Scotiabank, and TD) as of February 8, 2022.

Meanwhile, the labour force grew 3.9 per cent in 2021, more than offsetting the 2.2 per cent decline in the labour force in 2020. The total labour force participation rate recovered throughout 2021, averaging 65.3 per cent in the year, but labour force participation among the 55+ age group was lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Visible minorities in B.C. experienced higher unemployment rates than British Columbians who are neither Indigenous nor part of a group designated as a visible minority since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, but the gap in the unemployment rates between these groups has significantly narrowed in recent months. The pandemic has affected employment in sectors overrepresented by women and youth, significantly impacting employment rates for these groups in 2020 and much of 2021, but employment among women and youth in B.C. had recovered to pre-pandemic levels by the end of the year.

Employee compensation (aggregate wages, salaries and employers' social contributions) in B.C. in the first nine months of 2021 was 11.2 per cent higher than the same period of 2020 and was 10.1 per cent higher in September 2021 relative to February 2020. This reflects base-year³ effects of pandemic lows in 2020 and improvements in the labour market, while employment levels for high-wage workers have remained strong in 2020 and 2021.

Outlook

The outlook for B.C.'s labour market remains strong, but still faces uncertainty amid the degree and duration of pandemic restrictions due to variants of concern and the path of recovery in consumer demand for high-contact services. The Ministry forecasts employment in B.C. to increase by 2.8 per cent in 2022 (approximately +73,000 jobs), followed by annual growth of 1.6 per cent in 2023 (approximately +44,000 jobs). Growth is then expected to moderate over the medium-term slowing to 1.1 per cent by 2026.

The province's unemployment rate is expected to average 5.5 per cent in 2022, 5.4 per cent in 2023, and decline to 5.2 per cent by 2025.

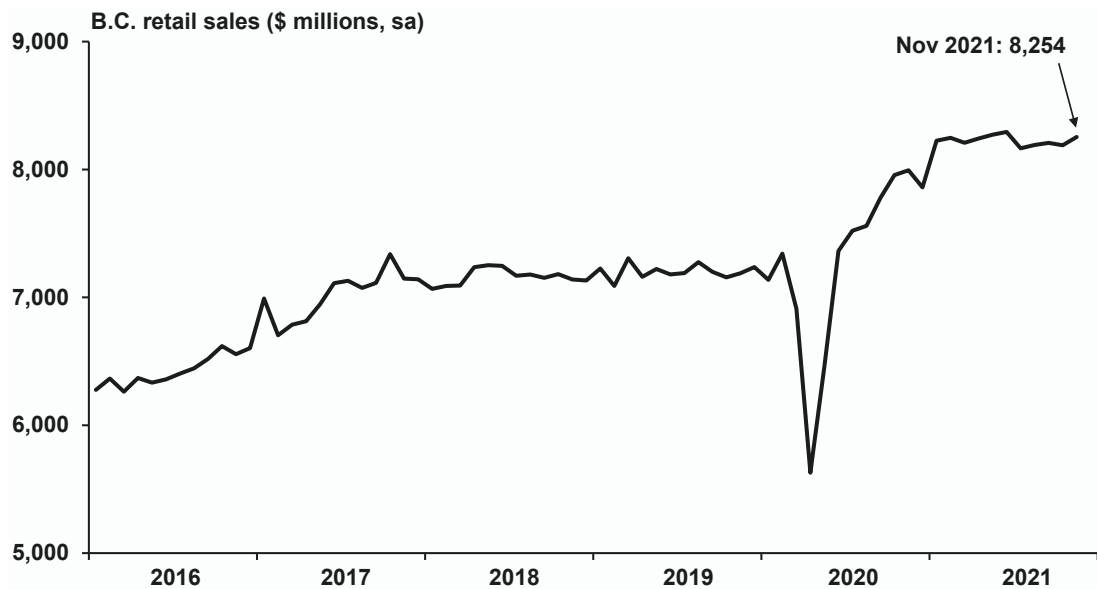
Consumer Spending and Inflation

Consumer spending on goods in 2021 has been relatively flat at a very high level following rapid growth in the second half of 2020. Spending activity continued to be supported by extended government emergency response programs, low interest rates, rising vaccination rates, and easing of restrictions. Year-to-date to November 2021 B.C. nominal retail sales were up 13.6 per cent compared to the same period in 2020. Underlying the headline growth figure were increases in all major categories, driven by purchases at motor vehicles and parts dealers (+23.4 per cent), gasoline stations (+22.9 per cent), and building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (+18.9 per cent). Overall consumer spending on goods was not impacted by the floods and landslides, as nominal retail trade increased by 0.8 per cent (m/m) in November. However, according to Statistics Canada's Retail Trade Survey, 21 per cent of retail businesses surveyed indicated that they were impacted by the floods and evacuations in both British Columbia and the Atlantic provinces, largely due to transportation disruptions.

³ Year-to-date and year-over-year growth rates compare economic activity in 2021 to 2020. For many economic indicators, activity was low at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The base-year effect refers to the higher than normal growth rates observed when comparing 2021 activity levels against the 2020 lows.

While retail trade data offers a detailed indication of consumer spending on goods, there is a lack of timely comprehensive data for consumer spending on services at the provincial level. In 2020, nominal consumer spending on services in B.C. declined 5.2 per cent, and more recent national data and sector-specific data showed continued weakness in 2021, with some signs of recovery at the end of summer and during the fall. National data shows that nominal consumer spending on services in the July to September quarter (third quarter) of 2021 was still 1.9 per cent below pre-pandemic levels. However, sales at food services and drinking places in B.C., a component of the service sector, rebounded throughout 2021 as venues reopened. In November 2021, sales at food services and drinking places were 2.6 per cent above pre-pandemic levels. Yet, broader tourism activities in B.C. remain well below their pre-pandemic levels according to Statistics Canada's Canadian Tourism Activity Tracker, which combines hotel occupancy, aviation, and spending counts for each province.

Chart 3.3 B.C. Retail Sales



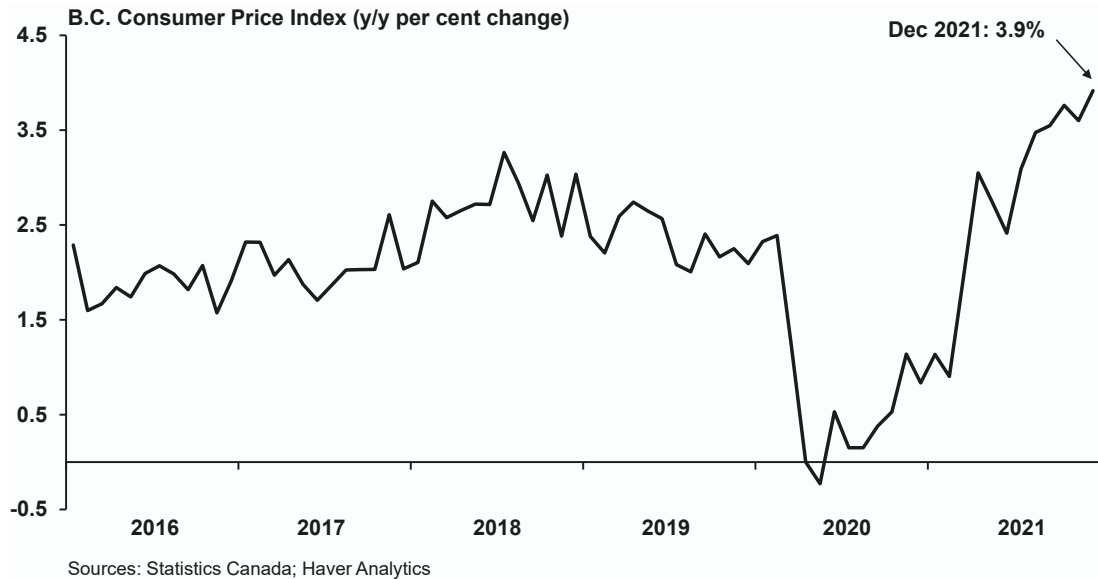
Sources: Statistics Canada; Haver Analytics

Consumer confidence strengthened through most of 2021 but faced some setbacks at the end of the year and into the start of 2022. The Conference Board of Canada's consumer confidence index for B.C. averaged 129.7 points in 2021, 37.0 points higher than 2020. In January 2022, the index fell to 126.3 following floods and landslides in November, as well as increased public health restrictions due to the Omicron wave in December and January. The Bank of Canada's latest Canadian Survey of Consumer Expectations released in January 2022 (reflecting survey responses prior to the Omicron variant spreading broadly in Canada) noted that Canadian consumers are anticipating stronger spending and have confidence in the labour market but are concerned about higher inflation in the near-term.

Prices have continued to face upward pressure from supply-chain disruptions, resilient demand for goods and services, and high energy prices. The year-over-year growth rate of the B.C. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has remained above 3.0 per cent since July 2021, reaching a rate of 3.9 per cent in December 2021. The annual CPI inflation rate in 2021 was 2.8 per cent. Provincial price gains in 2021 have been led by rising prices for shelter, transportation, and food. Higher shelter prices primarily reflect

increased prices in housing markets while transportation costs have been driven up by both higher gasoline prices and vehicle purchase costs. In the Bank of Canada's (BoC) Monetary Policy Statement on January 26, 2022, the BoC expects ongoing supply-chain constraints to keep price growth elevated, primarily in the first half of 2022. As supply shortages diminish in the second half of 2022, the BoC expects CPI growth to taper throughout the rest of the year.

Chart 3.4 B.C. Inflation



Outlook

Consumer spending is expected to continue its strength as employment prospects remain strong and households spend more on services as pandemic restrictions on high-contact services subside. The Ministry estimates that real household consumer spending picked up in 2021, with growth of 4.8 per cent, following a 3.5 per cent decline in 2020. The Ministry forecasts real household consumption to grow by 5.2 per cent in 2022 and 4.4 per cent in 2023. Growth is then expected to moderate to around 2.1 per cent annually in 2025 and 2026.

The Ministry expects nominal retail sales to continue to grow, expanding by 4.0 per cent in 2022 and then 3.7 per cent in 2023. It is expected to average 3.5 per cent growth over the 2024 to 2026 period.

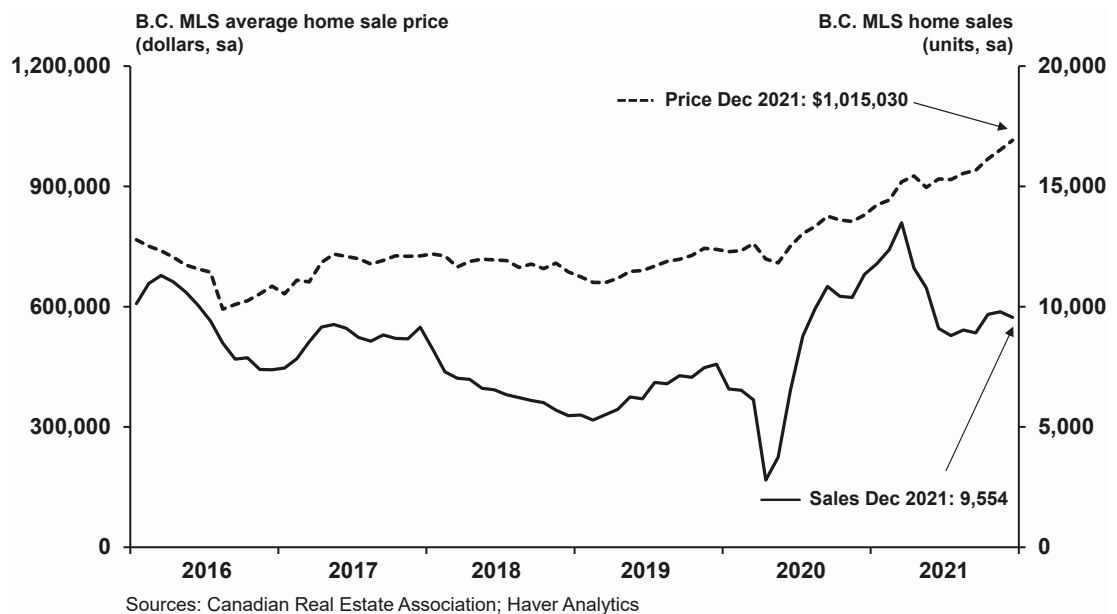
Consumer price inflation in B.C. is forecast to be 2.9 per cent in 2022 and is expected to moderate to 2.2 per cent in 2023, as supply-chain disruptions are resolved and central bank rates increase. Over the 2024 to 2026 period, inflation is expected to remain around the 2.0 per cent Bank of Canada target. For Canada, annual inflation rates are expected to be higher in 2022 and 2023 at 3.3 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively, before slowing to reach 2.0 per cent in 2025 and 2026.

Housing

B.C. housing markets and residential construction activity reached record levels last year. Resilient higher-wage employment, low interest rates, increased demand for larger dwellings, and low inventories fueled record high volumes of sales and higher prices. MLS home sales increased by 32.8 per cent in 2021 compared to 2020. At the regional level, annual MLS home sales rose in every region including the five largest: Greater Vancouver (+42.0 per cent), Fraser Valley (+40.7 per cent), Okanagan-Mainline (+27.0 per cent), Vancouver Island (+18.5 per cent), and Victoria (+18.0 per cent).

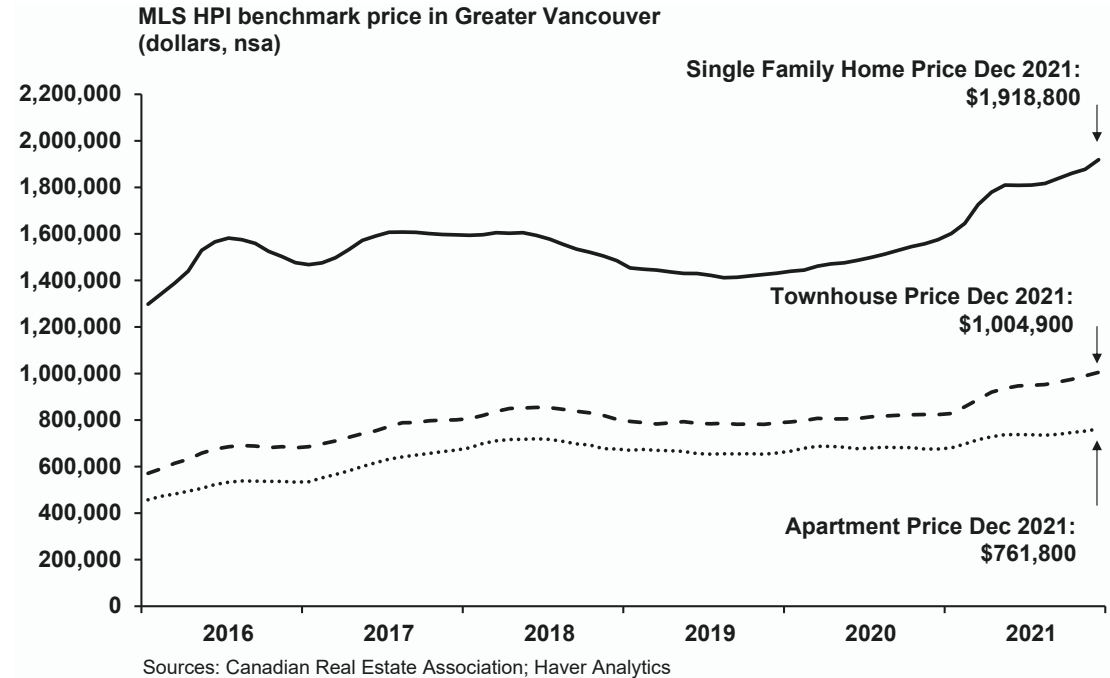
Record-low supply and strong demand for homes led to large price gains in 2021. In 2021, the MLS average home sale price increased by 18.7 per cent, following 11.6 per cent growth in 2020. Average sale price growth was strong across the province with each region seeing price growth above 10.0 per cent.

Chart 3.5 B.C. Home Sales and Price



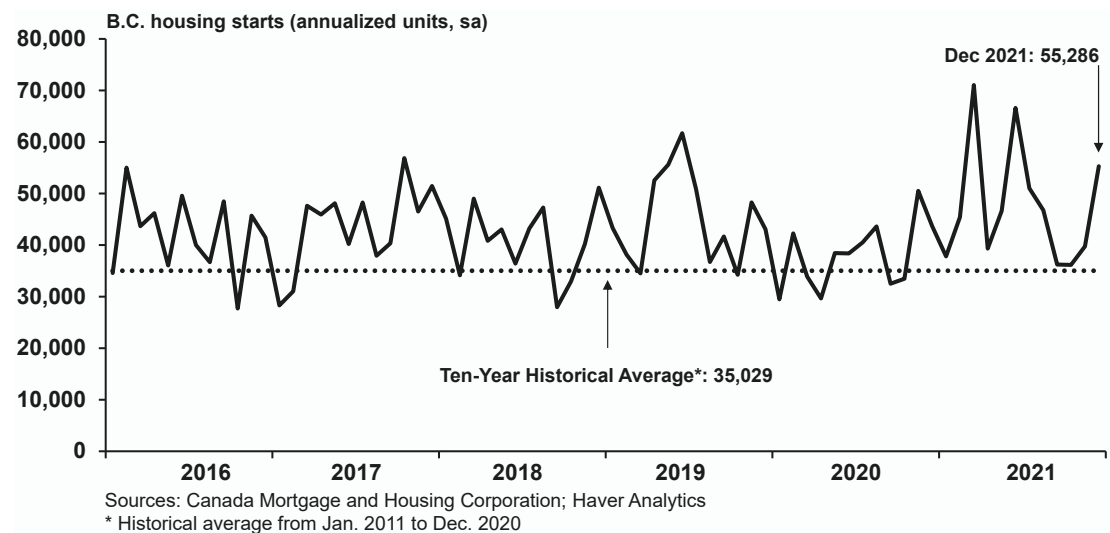
Regional MLS composite benchmark house prices (which incorporate all dwelling types) for Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley rose by 12.0 per cent and 21.0 per cent, respectively, in 2021. Significant price increases were observed across all major regions for all dwelling types, and was strongest for single-family detached dwellings, followed by townhouses and then apartments.

Chart 3.6 Greater Vancouver HPI Benchmark Price



In 2021, housing starts increased by 25.6 per cent to 47,607 units, a record high for annual housing starts, and also a record high year for multi-unit housing starts. Housing starts throughout 2021 were above the ten-year historical average in each month. The value of residential building permits, a leading indicator of home construction, rose 23.9 per cent in 2021, reflecting a 35.2 per cent increase in permitting for single-detached dwellings and a 19.8 per cent increase for multiple dwelling buildings.

Chart 3.7 B.C. Housing Starts



Outlook

The Ministry expects rising interest rates to temper the housing market from the record highs in the market in 2021. The Ministry forecasts unit home sales to decrease 22.2 per cent in 2022, decline by 7.1 per cent in 2023, and then remain relatively flat over 2024 to 2026. Average home sale prices in B.C. are expected to grow steadily over the forecast horizon, rising 3.4 per cent in 2022, and then average 2.2 per cent growth in the medium-term. Putting unit sales and prices together, the total value of home sales is forecast to fall 19.6 per cent in 2022, decrease by 5.1 per cent in 2023, then average 2.3 per cent over the 2024 to 2026 period.

While actual B.C. housing starts have exceeded the ten-year historical average in recent years, the Ministry prudently expects starts to total approximately 38,000 units in 2022, 36,000 units in 2023, and average 35,000 units per year over the 2024 to 2026 period, in-line with the historical average.

Business and Government

Non-residential construction permitting continued to slow last year, falling by 1.4 per cent in 2021, following a decrease of 14.8 per cent in 2020. Underlying the decline was lower permit issuance for institutional and government buildings (-10.9 per cent) whereas permit issuance increased for commercial buildings (+2.0 per cent) and industrial buildings (+3.7 per cent).

Businesses in B.C. have faced significant challenges and have been resilient to pandemic impacts. The number of active businesses in the province in October 2021 was 2.7 per cent higher compared to pre-pandemic levels. The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) small business confidence index strengthened in 2021, reflecting business' adaptability, strong pandemic supports for businesses, an extensive vaccination campaign, and the reopening of much of the economy. However, in recent months the index has been subdued, averaging levels 11.6 per cent lower in the September 2021 to January 2022 period compared to the recent peak in August 2021. Despite the drop in confidence, the overall index remains expansionary.

B.C.'s tourism sector continues to be severely impacted by COVID-19, as the number of international travelers arriving in B.C. has been very low since April 2020. The lifting of restrictions since August 2021 resulted in substantial increases in international travelers in recent months (198,703 in November compared to 28,315 in July), but the number of international travelers to B.C. in November was still well below the 700,000 travelers usually seen on average per month prior to the pandemic. The tourism sector is expected to see a more substantial recovery with the easing of travel restrictions.

Outlook

Following an estimated increase of 11.2 per cent in 2021 (after 2.5 per cent growth in 2020), the Ministry forecasts total real investment in B.C. to rise by 1.9 per cent in 2022, 0.8 per cent in 2023, and range between 0.4 and 2.3 per cent growth annually over the 2024 to 2026 period.

Real business investment is estimated to have grown by 9.5 per cent last year (following 1.3 per cent growth in 2020) and is projected to grow by 1.0 per cent in 2022, with increases expected in most segments (non-residential, machinery and equipment, and intellectual property). Over the 2023 to 2026 period, growth is forecast to range from 1.1 per cent and 3.0 per cent annually. The LNG Canada project is expected

to generate a significant amount of economic activity which will support B.C.'s economy over the forecast horizon.

Real expenditure on goods and services by all levels of government is estimated to have increased by 3.5 per cent in 2021 (following 1.1 per cent growth in 2020), driven by the ongoing provincial and federal responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Real government spending is forecast to moderate to 0.8 per cent growth in 2022 and decline in 2023 as some of the temporary extraordinary supports are phased out. Over the 2024 to 2026 period, government expenditures are expected to be relatively flat in real terms. Nominal government spending on goods and services is expected to grow annually over the forecast horizon.

Following an estimated increase of 13.6 per cent in 2021 and 19.1 per cent growth in 2020, the Ministry expects the nominal net operating surplus of corporations (an approximation of corporate profits) to increase by 0.8 per cent in 2022 and then by 4.3 per cent in 2023. Over 2024 to 2026, the net operating surplus is expected to grow between 4.0 per cent and 6.8 per cent annually.

External Trade and Commodity Markets

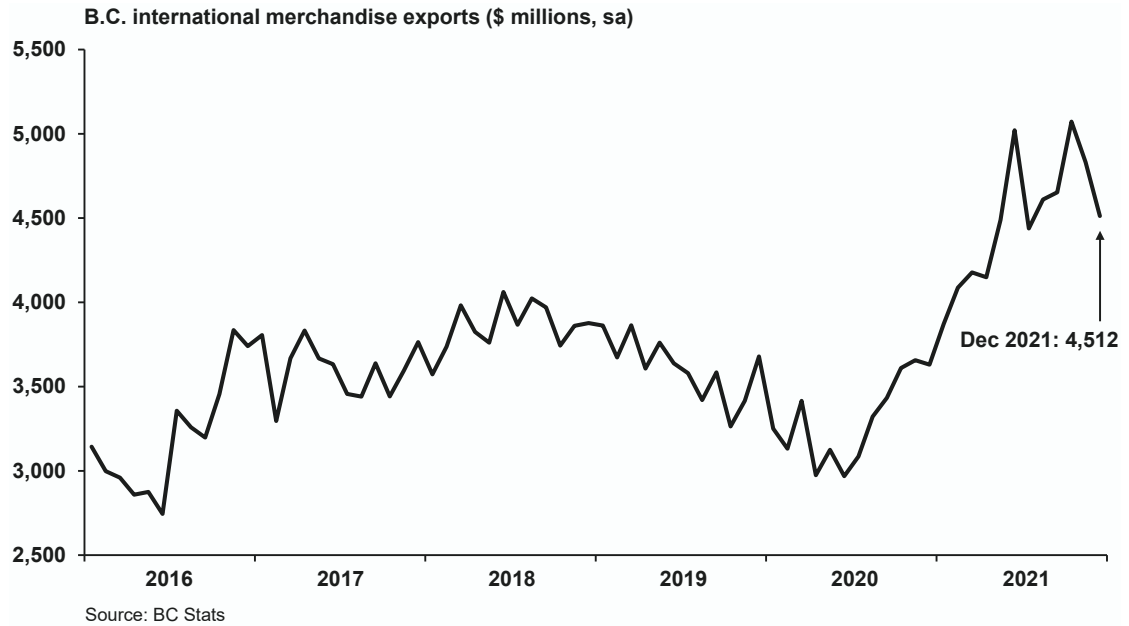
Throughout 2021 B.C. merchandise goods exports benefitted from a recovery in global demand and higher commodity prices and are well above pre-pandemic levels. Annual B.C. merchandise exports increased 36.1 per cent in 2021. Most of the gain was driven by higher exports of energy products (+75.7 per cent), forestry products and building and packaging materials (+42.2 per cent), and metal and non-metallic mineral products (+36.3 per cent).

In November and December, B.C. merchandise goods exports were impacted by floods and landslides that caused substantial damage to infrastructure. While the total value of goods exports declined by 11.0 per cent in November and December, exports to the U.S. were up 6.4 per cent, but exports to non-U.S. destinations (which relies on road and rail transportation to the Port of Vancouver) fell 27.9 per cent over the two months. Most of the decline in exports in November and December was in energy products (-31.1 per cent). In the past few months, some of B.C.'s main highways have been temporarily repaired and rail access has been restored, allowing for the flow of goods and services.

In 2021, the value of B.C. merchandise exports to the U.S. increased by 37.9 per cent compared to 2020, led by exports of energy products (+76.0 per cent), forestry products and building materials (+50.6 per cent), and metal and non-metallic mineral products (+32.3 per cent). The same categories, along with metal ores and non-metallic mineral exports, were the main drivers of a 33.9 per cent annual increase in B.C. merchandise exports to non-U.S. destinations.

Like merchandise exports, B.C.'s manufacturing shipments have strengthened throughout 2021 as demand in the global economy increased. Year-to-date to November, B.C.'s manufacturing shipments increased 21.9 per cent compared to the same period of 2020. Higher shipments of wood products (+59.5 per cent) have driven the year-to-date increase in 2021.

B.C. tourism data and national export data suggest that B.C.'s nominal international exports of services have largely not recovered from a sharp decline of 22.8 per cent in 2020. National-level data shows that Canadian exports of services were still 5.6 per cent lower in December 2021 than pre-pandemic levels.

Chart 3.8 B.C. Exports

Lumber prices reached a record high in 2021, where the price of Western spruce-pine-fir (SPF) 2x4 averaged \$883 US/000 board feet, driven by surging prices in the first half of 2021 and again in December 2021. These recent elevated prices reflect resilient demand amid ongoing supply-chain disruptions which include flooding and landslides on major transportation routes in B.C.

The looming global spread of Omicron softened the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) oil price at the end of the year, but the price remained strong compared to recent years. In 2021, the WTI price averaged \$67.99 per barrel, an increase of 73.3 per cent from the previous year. The plant inlet price of natural gas increased sharply in the second half of 2021 due to recovering economies and extreme weather events causing high demand for natural gas products. The plant inlet price averaged \$2.22 C/GJ in 2021, up from an average of \$0.96 C/GJ in 2020.

Base metal and mineral prices continued their strength throughout 2021, where average annual prices for molybdenum, zinc, lead, silver, copper, and metallurgical coal all recorded growth exceeding 20.0 per cent in 2021 compared to 2020. The price of gold grew modestly on average in 2021 at 1.7 per cent compared to the average price in 2020, and remains at an elevated level.

Outlook

Real exports of goods and services are estimated to have grown by 1.7 per cent in 2021, following a contraction of 9.7 per cent in 2020. Growth in real exports of goods and services is projected to be 2.7 per cent in 2022, 2.5 per cent in 2023, and range between 3.3 per cent and 5.2 per cent annually in the 2024 to 2026 period. The anticipated production of LNG toward the end of the forecast horizon provides support to the outlook.

The price of lumber is forecast to average \$575 US/000 board feet in 2022 and \$475 US/000 board feet in 2023, before moderating to \$450 US/000 board feet over the 2024 to 2026 period. The plant inlet price for natural gas is expected to average \$2.09 C/GJ in 2022/23, \$1.67 C/GJ in 2023/24, and \$1.55 C/GJ in 2024/25.

The outlook is subject to considerable uncertainty, as commodity prices can be volatile.

Demographics

B.C.'s population on July 1, 2021 was 5.21 million people, up by 1.1 per cent from the same date in 2020. During the January to September period of 2021, the province welcomed 84,858 net migrants, a significant increase compared to the 17,325 net migrants in the same period of 2020, when lockdown measures restricted the flow of people. The increase in immigration in the first nine months of 2021 was due to both increased net international migration (from +167 persons to +54,535 persons) and net interprovincial migration (from +17,158 persons to +30,323 persons) compared to the same period of 2020. In *Budget 2021*, total net migration was expected to be about 58,500 persons in 2021, which has been significantly surpassed already in the first nine months of 2021 (+84,858 persons), reflecting pent-up movement that was restricted in 2020 and earlier in 2021 along with the federal government exceeding immigration targets.

Outlook

B.C.'s July 1 population is projected to increase by 1.9 per cent in 2022 and then by around 1.5 per cent on average over the 2023 to 2026 period.

Total net migration is expected to be about 107,000 persons in 2022, and 86,600 persons in 2023. Looking beyond, total net migration is projected to taper down to around 75,500 persons by 2026. Over the forecast horizon, international migrants are expected to average around 80 per cent of total migrants, which is similar to recent years. The fall 2020 increase in federal immigration targets, along with increased movement across the globe, are supporting the forecast.

Risks to the Economic Outlook

Despite significant challenges in 2021, B.C.'s economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has proceeded rapidly and is broadening. However, there are various elements of uncertainty that will influence the future path of B.C.'s economic recovery. While there are upside risks (such as resiliency of the economy amidst future variants, a quicker recovery in the service sector, and a faster than expected global recovery), risks continue to be weighted to the downside. Downside risks to B.C.'s economic outlook include the following:

- emergence of COVID-19 variants of concern and future outbreaks in B.C., Canada, or among B.C.'s trading partners, and delays in the global vaccination rollout;
- medium- to long-term damage to the economy due to the pandemic through channels such as persistent long-term unemployment and labour market detachment, higher precautionary saving by households, business closures, or lower private capital investment;
- persistent inflation leading to a faster than expected pace of interest rate increases in Canada and internationally;
- climate-related disasters disrupting the lives and livelihoods of British Columbians, destroying productive capital, and impacting economic activity;
- ongoing global trade tensions and broader economic challenges in Asia, Europe, and the U.K.;
- higher volatility in international foreign exchange, stock, and bond markets;

- lower commodity prices, particularly for lumber, pulp, natural gas, and coal; and
- timing of investment and hiring related to the LNG Canada project, similar to the risks that exist for other major capital projects.

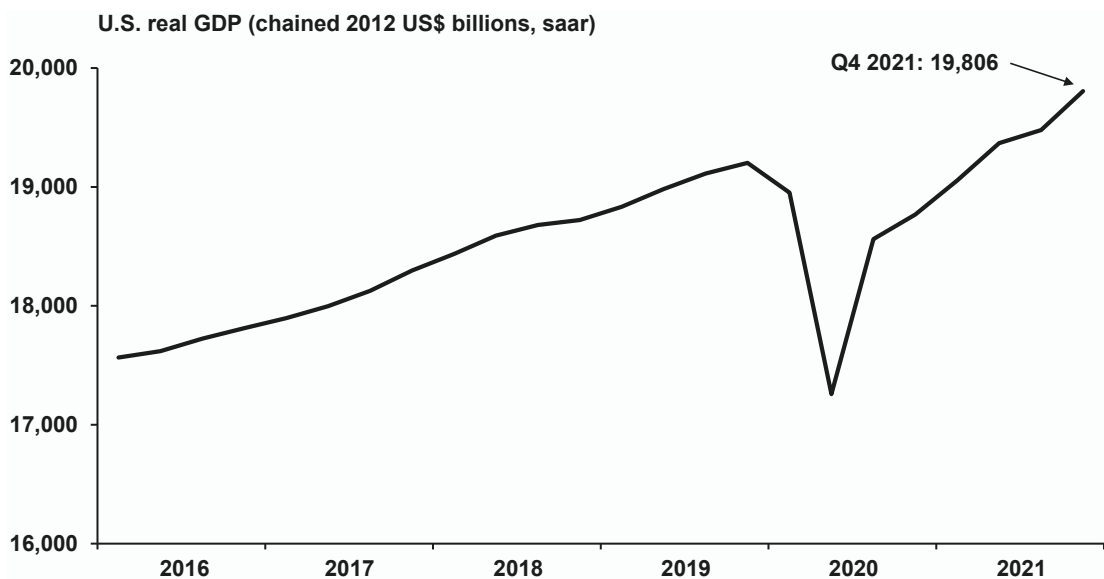
External Outlook

The external outlook has moderated for most of B.C.'s major trading partners since the *First Quarterly Report*. While many countries experienced rebounds in economic activity and employment after reopening their economies and removing containment measures, the continued strength of their recoveries has been mixed. Many countries have imposed new restrictions in response to the fast-spreading Omicron variant, which could worsen existing supply-chain disruptions, tight labour markets, and high material costs. The impacts of floods and landslides in B.C. on Canada's economy continue to unfold, as the Province works to reopen and rebuild critical infrastructure that shippers across Canada rely on for international trade. Rising inflation will pressure central banks to raise interest rates, which may weigh on continued recovery prospects for households and businesses.

United States

Easing of restrictions and supportive monetary and fiscal policy contributed to the recovery of the U.S. economy in 2021, which accelerated at the end of the year. Following slower annualized growth of 2.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2021, GDP growth rebounded in the October to December quarter (fourth quarter) at an annualized rate of 6.9 per cent. However, the majority of this quarterly growth was due to inventory effects from businesses restocking their shelves, while domestic demand grew at a more modest pace. Overall, U.S. GDP in 2021 increased 5.7 per cent compared to 2020, the highest growth rate in nearly 40 years. All major components of GDP grew on an annual basis, including consumption of goods and services, investment, exports, and government spending.

Chart 3.9 U.S. Real GDP

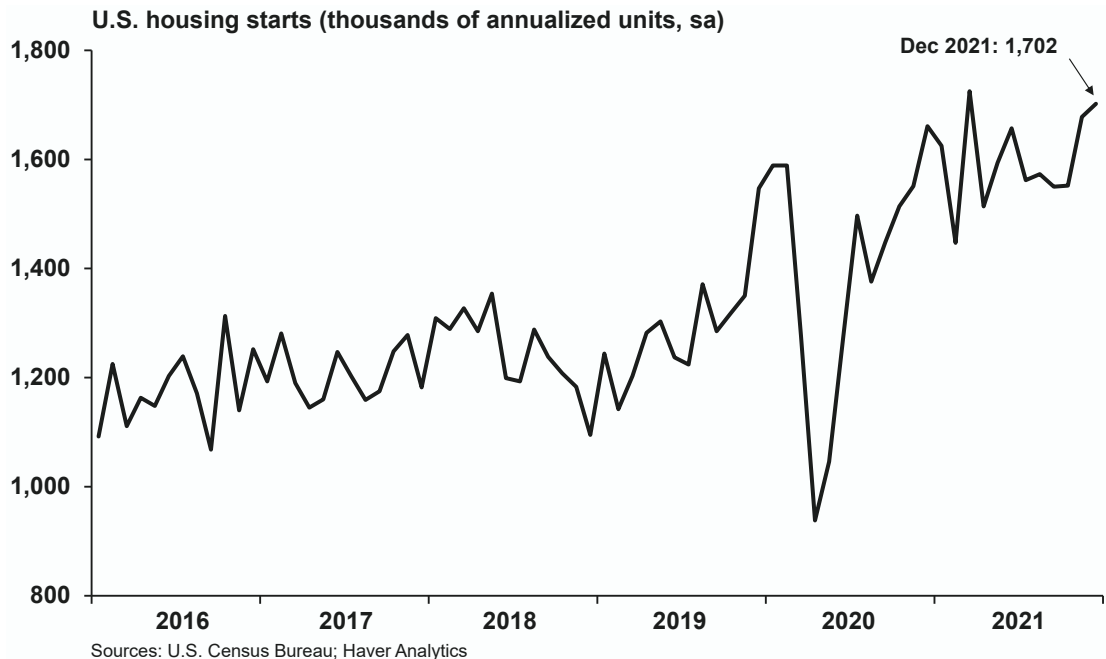


Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; Haver Analytics

The U.S. labour market recovery strengthened throughout 2021, adding a monthly average of around 611,000 jobs in the fourth quarter. In 2021, U.S. employment was up 2.8 per cent compared to 2020. Job growth slowed only slightly in Omicron-disrupted January 2022, adding 467,000 jobs (m/m). However, U.S. employment remained 1.9 per cent (or 2.9 million jobs) below pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels as of January 2022. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.0 per cent in January 2022, above the pre-pandemic rate of 3.5 per cent. The number of long-term unemployed has improved in recent months but remains well above the pre-pandemic level. January 2022's labour force participation rate of 62.2 per cent was 1.2 percentage points lower than in February 2020.

U.S. home building activity remains resilient, driven by strong housing demand. Housing starts in 2021 were 15.6 per cent above 2020 levels and in December 2021 were 7.1 per cent above pre-pandemic levels. Residential building permits, a leading indicator of building activity, increased 9.8 per cent in December 2021 and were up 17.2 per cent in 2021 as a whole compared to 2020.

Chart 3.10 U.S. Housing Starts



U.S. home sales were robust in 2021, driven partly by low mortgage rates. Existing home sales hit a 15-year high in 2021 and were up 8.4 per cent compared to the previous year. New home sales, however, declined by 7.3 per cent in 2021 following strong sales in 2020. The median sales price for existing homes was up 16.9 per cent over 2020, while new home prices rose by 16.6 per cent.

U.S. nominal retail sales showed strength in 2021 and exceeded pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels in every month of the year. Although spending slowed in December due to the Omicron variant and elevated inflation, sales for the year were up by 19.3 per cent compared to 2020. All major categories of retail sales were above 2020 levels, with notable gains at motor vehicles and parts dealers, food services and drinking places, and gasoline stations. Year-over-year, inflation increased by 7.0 per cent in December 2021, the highest in nearly 40 years, driven by increases in prices for gasoline and used cars and trucks. The annual CPI inflation rate in the U.S. was 4.7 per cent in 2021.

U.S. consumer confidence trended upward in the first half of 2021 but faltered in the second half of the year due to COVID-19 concerns and rising prices. The Conference Board consumer confidence index averaged 112.7 for 2021, which was 11.7 points above 2020. However, in January 2022, the index remained 18.8 points below pre-pandemic levels.

U.S. merchandise exports recovered from pandemic lows despite challenges created by new COVID-19 variants and ongoing supply-chain disruptions. The value of U.S. merchandise exports in December 2021 was 16.6 per cent above February 2020 and up 23.3 per cent for the year compared to 2020.

Outlook

In January 2022, *Consensus Economics* (*Consensus*) forecasters projected U.S. economic growth of 3.9 per cent in 2022, 0.2 percentage points lower than the October 2021 *Consensus* survey. Meanwhile, for 2023, *Consensus* forecasts growth of 2.6 per cent (Table 3.2).

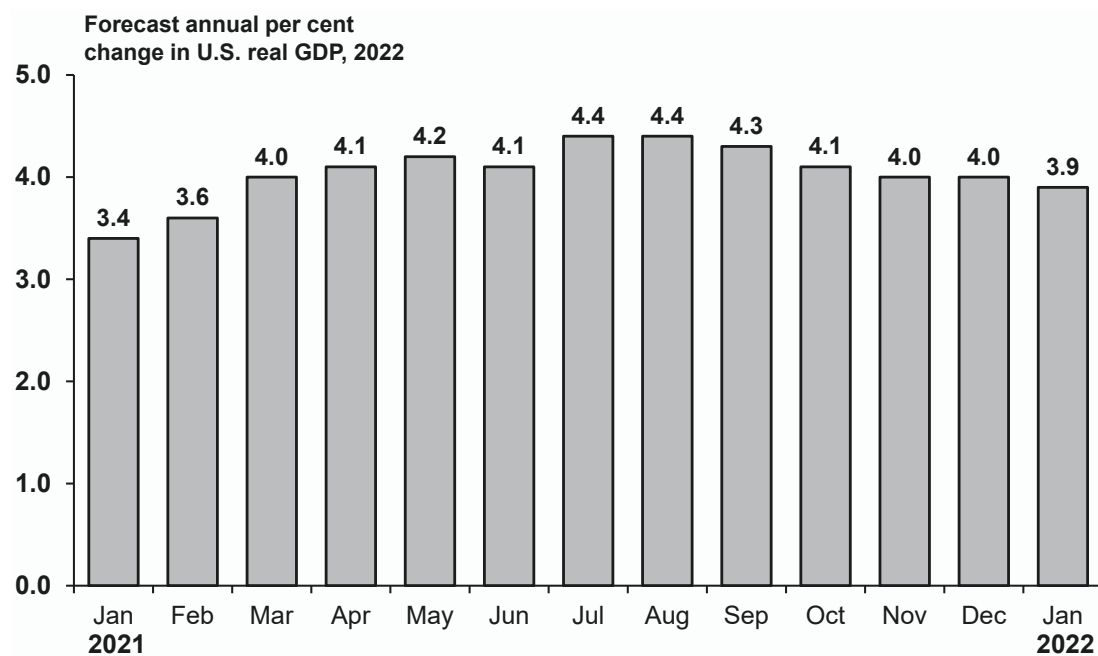
Table 3.2 U.S. Real GDP Forecast: Consensus versus B.C. Ministry of Finance

	2022	2023
	Per cent change in real GDP	
B.C. Ministry of Finance	3.6	2.3
<i>Consensus Economics</i> (January 2022*)	3.9	2.6

* Comparable month to B.C. Ministry of Finance forecast.

A surge in Omicron cases and persistent labour shortages could weigh on economic growth in 2022. Recognizing these uncertainties, the Ministry prudently assumes that U.S. real GDP will grow by 3.6 per cent in 2022 and by 2.3 per cent in 2023, with growth gradually tapering off to 1.7 per cent annually over the medium-term.

Chart 3.11 Consensus Outlook for the U.S. in 2022

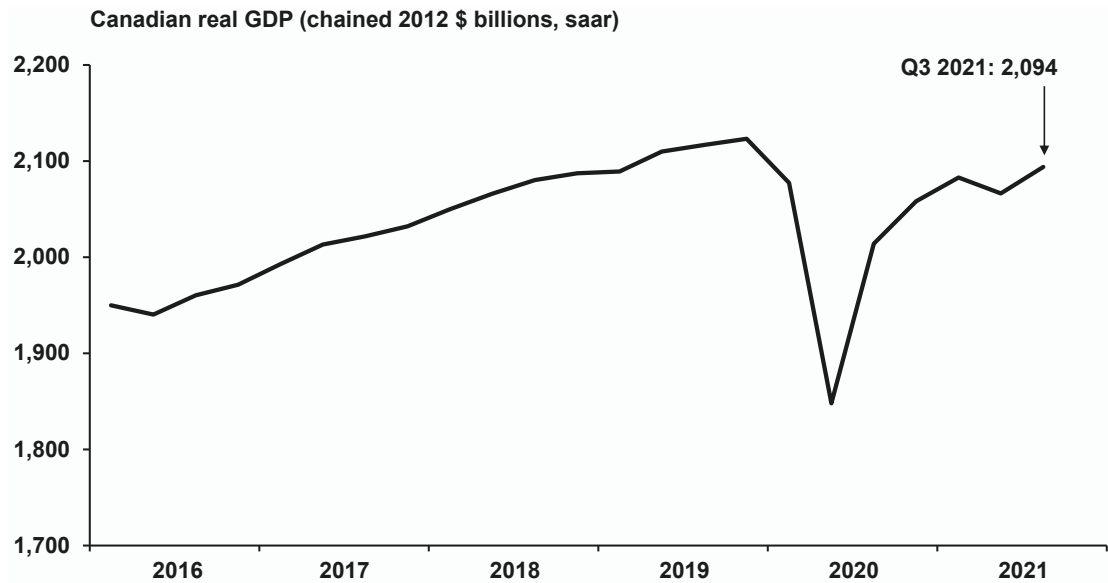


Source: Consensus Economics
 The chart above represents forecasts for U.S. real GDP growth in 2022 as polled on specific dates. For example, forecasters surveyed on January 11, 2021 had an average 2022 U.S. real GDP growth forecast of 3.4 per cent, while on January 10, 2022 they forecast 2022 U.S. real GDP to grow by 3.9 per cent.

Canada

The Canadian economy rebounded in the third quarter of 2021 to grow at an annualized rate of 5.4 per cent, following a contraction (-3.2 per cent annualized) in the second quarter (April to June quarter). GDP growth was driven by gains in consumer spending as consumption of services and semi-durable goods (e.g., clothing and footwear) increased with the easing of restrictions. Exports also contributed to growth, led by crude oil. However, increases were softened by weaker business investment, a pullback in housing investment, and a drawdown of inventories. Canadian real GDP remained 1.4 per cent below pre-pandemic levels in the third quarter of 2021.

Chart 3.12 Canadian Real GDP



Sources: Statistics Canada; Haver Analytics

Consumer price inflation accelerated throughout 2021, driven in part by supply-chain disruptions, resilient demand for goods and services, and high energy prices. Year-over-year, inflation advanced from 1.0 per cent in January to 4.8 per cent in December, reaching levels not seen in 30 years. Price growth in December was broad-based, with the largest increases in transportation, shelter, and food. On average, prices were up by 3.4 per cent in 2021 compared to 2020.

Although Canadian employment has remained above pre-pandemic levels, employment fell by 1.0 per cent (m/m) in January 2022 and the unemployment rate increased to 6.5 per cent, as the spread of Omicron weighed on the labour market. In 2021, Canadian employment grew by 4.8 per cent (+866,200 jobs) compared to 2020. Several industries had not returned to pre-pandemic levels by January 2022, with accommodation and food services being the hardest-hit industry.

The average unemployment rate for 2021 (7.5 per cent) was a 2.0 percentage point improvement over 2020. January 2022's unemployment rate of 6.5 per cent was 0.8 percentage points higher than pre-pandemic levels. January's labour force participation rate of 65.0 per cent was lower (-0.6 percentage points) than February 2020, but was up on a year-over-year basis. The unemployment rate for youth remains

higher than for core-age workers, and despite significant improvement since its peak in May 2020 remained above pre-pandemic levels in January 2022. The unemployment rate for visible minorities improved in 2021 but remained higher than for people who are neither Indigenous nor part of a designated visible minority group.

The Canadian housing market surged in 2021, finishing the year with record sales and prices, and strong housing starts. Total MLS home sales in 2021 increased by 20.7 per cent over the previous sales record in 2020, with double-digit growth in 9 of the 10 provinces. A lack of housing supply and strong demand pushed the average sale price up by 21.3 per cent over the previous record set in 2020. Months of inventory, which measures the number of months to sell the existing inventory of homes, was 1.6 in December 2021, the lowest level ever recorded in data going back to 2003. Housing starts in 2021 reached heights not seen since 1976, despite a pullback in December. In 2021, housing starts were 25.2 per cent higher than the previous year, driven by construction in Calgary, Montréal, and Vancouver.

Canadian nominal retail sales recovered to their pre-pandemic levels in June 2020 and gained momentum through 2021. In the first eleven months of 2021, retail sales were 11.9 per cent higher compared to the same period of 2020. Strong sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations have contributed to increases in total retail sales.

Canadian merchandise exports rose in 2021, despite global supply-chain issues and transportation disruptions caused by November's flooding and landslides in B.C. The value of Canadian merchandise exports in 2021 was 21.5 per cent higher than the previous year and December's value was above pre-pandemic levels by 17.2 per cent. Canada recorded surplus trade balances for nine months of the year and registered its first annual trade surplus since 2014, even as energy exports fell at the end of the year. Service exports, which trended upward in recent months, were still down 5.6 per cent in December 2021 relative to pre-pandemic levels.

Outlook

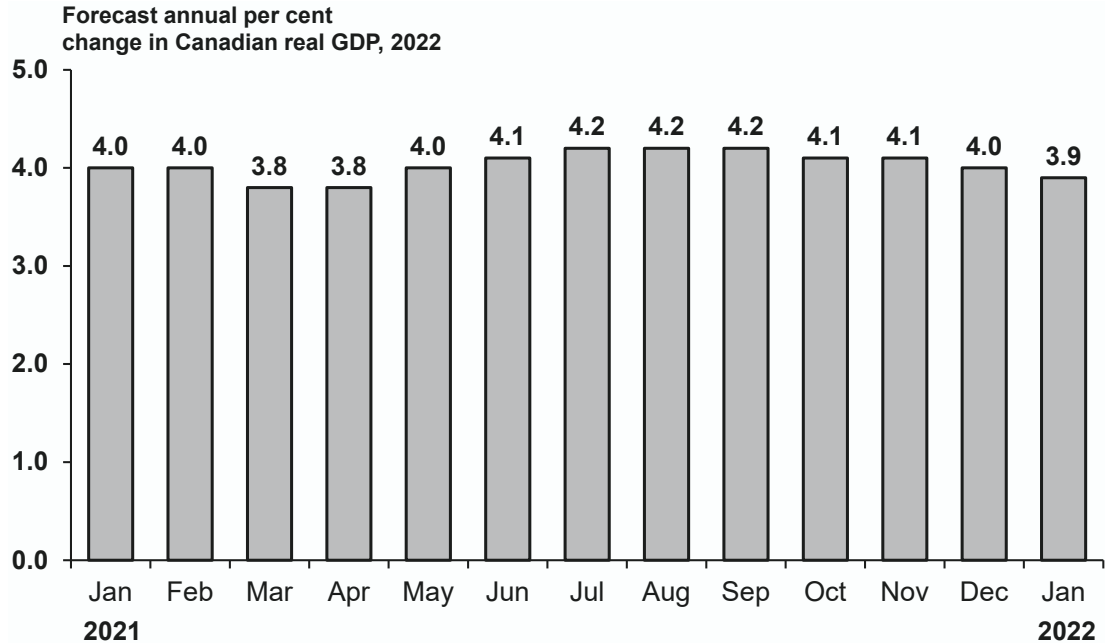
The January 2022 *Consensus* forecasts Canadian real GDP to rise by 3.9 per cent in 2022 (0.2 percentage points lower than the October survey) and by 3.0 per cent in 2023 (Table 3.3).

Table 3.3 Canadian Real GDP Forecast: Consensus versus B.C. Ministry of Finance

	2022	2023
	Per cent change in real GDP	
B.C. Ministry of Finance	3.6	2.6
<i>Consensus Economics</i> (January 2022*)	3.9	3.0

* Comparable month to B.C. Ministry of Finance forecast.

Uncertainty regarding new restrictions triggered by the Omicron variant and ongoing price pressures could create headwinds for economic activity in 2022. Accordingly, the Ministry's outlook is lower than the January 2022 *Consensus*. The Ministry assumes that the Canadian economy will grow by 3.6 per cent in 2022, 2.6 per cent in 2023, and then moderate over the medium-term to reach 1.6 per cent annual growth.

Chart 3.13 Consensus Outlook for Canada in 2022

Source: Consensus Economics

The chart above represents forecasts for Canadian real GDP growth in 2022 as polled on specific dates. For example, forecasters surveyed on January 11, 2021 had an average 2022 Canadian real GDP growth forecast of 4.0 per cent, while on January 10, 2022 they forecast 2022 Canadian real GDP to grow by 3.9 per cent.

Asia

China's economy continued to expand in 2021, increasing by 8.1 per cent compared to 2020. Growth accelerated in the fourth quarter of last year to an annualized rate of 9.4 per cent, following weaker growth in the third quarter. China's economy faced numerous challenges in the second half of the year from rises in COVID-19 infections, supply-chain disruptions, shortages of semiconductors, high commodity prices, power outages, and a slowdown in property investment. On January 17, 2022, the Chinese central bank cut several key lending rates, which was mainly attributed to concerns over slowing economic growth.

Supply-chain disruptions and lower consumer spending weighed on Japan's economy in the third quarter of 2021. Japan real GDP decreased by an annualized growth rate of 3.6 per cent in the third quarter of 2021, following an annualized growth rate of 2.0 per cent in the second quarter. Shortages of semiconductors and other parts forced automobile manufacturers to curtail production and a COVID-related state of emergency limited spending in major Japanese cities. On January 18, 2022, the Bank of Japan held its target interest rates unchanged and maintained its current asset purchase program.

Outlook

The January 2022 *Consensus* forecasts China real GDP to grow by 5.0 per cent in 2022 and 5.3 per cent in 2023. Strict lockdowns from China's zero-COVID policy, continued border restrictions, and the worsening real estate situation could create headwinds for China's economic growth. The Ministry's prudent assumption is that China's economy will expand by 4.7 per cent in 2022 and 5.0 per cent in 2023, before moderating to 4.8 per cent growth in 2026.

The January 2022 *Consensus* forecasts Japan real GDP to grow by 3.1 per cent in 2022 and 1.5 per cent in 2023. In recognition of the growing risks represented by the Omicron variant and the strict border restrictions imposed by Japan, the Ministry assumes that Japan's real GDP will grow more slowly. The Ministry forecasts economic activity to rise by 2.8 per cent in 2022, pulling back to 1.2 per cent growth in 2023 and then gradually softening to 0.5 per cent annual growth over the medium-term.

Europe

Economic activity strengthened in the euro zone in 2021 with the easing of restrictions in many member countries. Real GDP in the euro zone grew by 5.2 per cent in 2021, following a decline of 6.5 per cent in 2020. Growth slowed towards the end of the year, as many countries imposed new containment measures to reduce infections from the Omicron variant. Real GDP in the fourth quarter grew at an annualized rate of 1.2 per cent, down from 9.4 per cent growth in the third quarter. The region is expected to have a slow start to 2022, with growth resuming as coronavirus restrictions lift and supply-chain disruptions improve.

On February 3, 2022, the European Central Bank (ECB) maintained key interest rates at current levels and kept to its December 2021 commitment to scale back bond purchases in response to high inflation. The ECB will reduce and reconfigure its net asset purchases from near €90 billion per month to €40 billion in the second quarter of 2022 and €30 billion in the third quarter, and continue making purchases until at least October 2022. The ECB expects to end asset purchases before raising key interest rates, which might occur as early as 2022.

Outlook

The January 2022 *Consensus* forecasts the euro zone economy to grow by 4.0 per cent in 2022, which is 0.4 percentage points lower than the October 2021 *Consensus* survey. Downgrades to growth for 2022 reflect tighter restrictions following an increase in COVID-19 cases and increasing price pressures. For 2023, *Consensus* forecasts growth of 2.5 per cent. The Ministry forecasts more prudent growth of 3.7 per cent in 2022, 2.1 per cent in 2023, and then a gradual deceleration over the medium-term toward 1.2 per cent growth in 2026.

Financial Markets

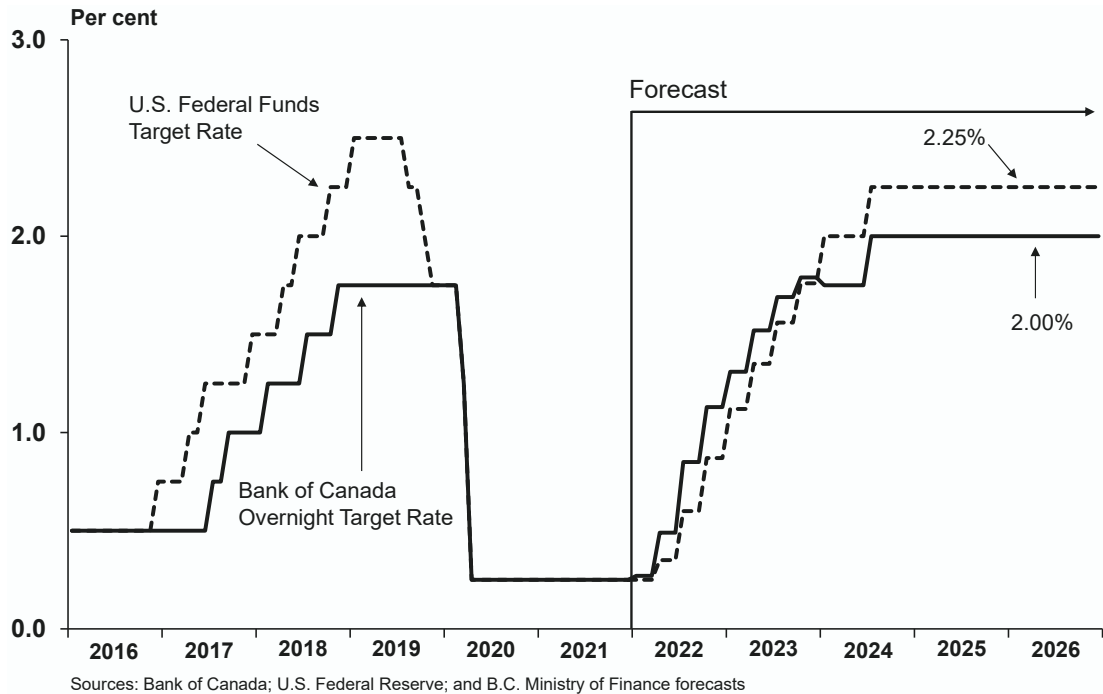
Interest Rates

In response to strong economic growth, recovery in labour markets, and increased inflationary pressures, central banks have signalled their intention to raise interest rates in 2022.

On January 26, 2022 the Federal Open Market Committee (The Fed) held its target range for the federal funds rate unchanged at 0.00 to 0.25 per cent. The Fed did not provide specifics on the pace and timing of rate increases but instead stated these increases are expected soon given elevated inflation levels and the strong labour market. The Fed also announced an expected end to its quantitative easing (asset purchases) program. The Fed had previously reduced its monthly asset purchases in half, from US\$120 billion prior to November 2021 to US\$60 billion in January 2022. The Fed plans to further reduce monthly purchases from February onward, bringing them to an end in early March.

The Fed is closely monitoring the economy and will adjust monetary policy for emergent risks to its goals of maximum employment and a long-term inflation rate of 2 per cent.

Chart 3.14 Interest Rate Forecasts



On January 26, 2022, the Bank of Canada (BoC) kept its target for the overnight interest rate at 0.25 per cent and maintained its holdings of Government of Canada bonds roughly constant. Although the BoC opted not to raise rates, it ended its commitment to holding its policy rate at the lower bound as Canada's economy is now operating at full capacity. The BoC stopped short of providing a timeline for rate increases and instead stated that the timing and pace of increases will be guided by its 2 per cent inflation target. The BoC noted an uneven economic recovery from COVID-19, with robust growth in the U.S., a rebound in oil prices, and stronger than expected growth in Canada's economy in 2021 with momentum heading into 2022. However, growth was more moderate in China, and inflation in most regions has risen due to strong demand and supply-chain disruptions. The BoC expects inflation to remain elevated at around 5 per cent in the first half of 2022 before easing to 3 per cent by the end of the year.

Outlook

The US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Canada have signalled raising interest rates in 2022 to ease inflationary pressures. Based on the average of six private sector forecasts as of January 4, 2022, the Ministry assumes the U.S. federal funds rate to average 0.52 per cent in 2022 and 1.45 per cent in 2023. By comparison, the Bank of Canada's overnight target rate is expected to average 0.69 per cent in 2022 and 1.58 per cent in 2023.

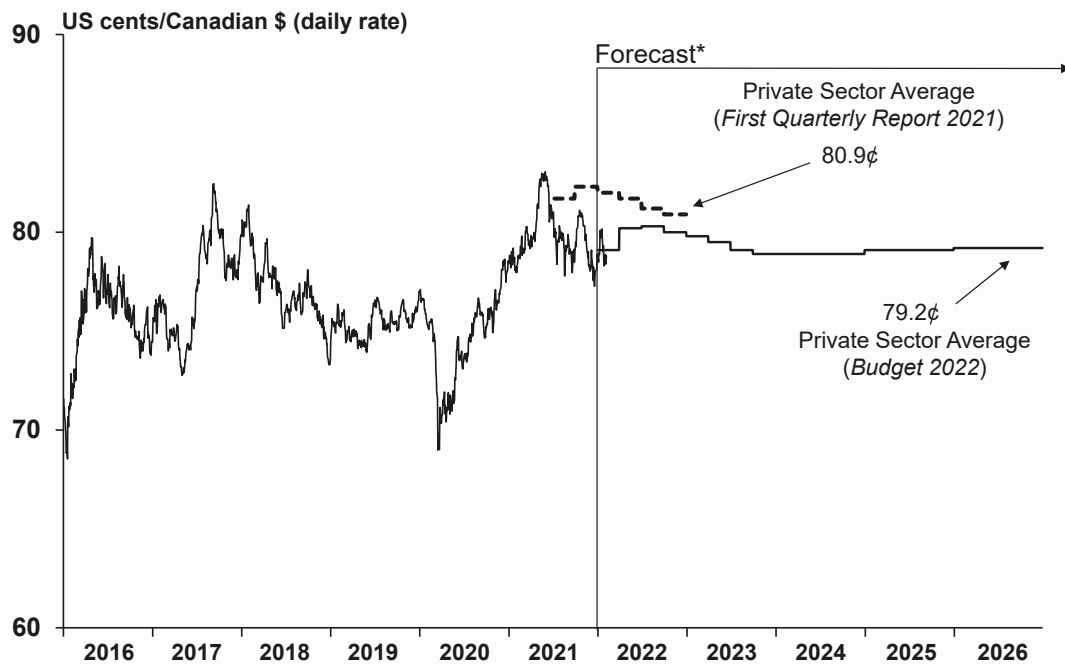
The Canadian three-month treasury bill interest rate is expected to average 0.65 per cent in 2022 and 1.56 per cent in 2023, according to the same six private sector forecasters. Meanwhile, the 10-year Government of Canada bond rate is assumed to be 1.82 per cent in 2022 and 2.14 per cent in 2023.

Table 3.4 Private Sector Canadian Interest Rate Forecasts

Average annual interest rate (per cent)	3-month Treasury Bill		10-year Government Bond	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
BMO	0.61	1.54	1.79	2.13
CIBC	0.43	1.24	1.83	2.20
National Bank	0.67	1.52	1.79	1.98
RBC	0.55	1.50	1.76	2.08
Scotiabank	0.85	1.86	1.83	2.23
TD	0.78	1.67	1.92	2.24
Average (as of January 4, 2022)	0.65	1.56	1.82	2.14

Exchange Rate

The value of the Canadian dollar has generally moved in step with energy prices during the pandemic and recovery. The Canadian dollar experienced a small pullback in the last two months of 2021 as oil prices softened. However, the Canadian dollar averaged 79.8 US cents in 2021 as a whole, higher than the 74.6 US cents in 2020.

Chart 3.15 Private Sector Expectations for the Canadian Dollar

Sources: Bank of Canada and B.C. Ministry of Finance forecasts.

* Based on the average of private sector forecasts. *First Quarterly Report 2021* as of July 9, 2021 and *Budget 2022* as of January 4, 2022.

Outlook

Based on the average of six private sector forecasts as of January 4, 2022, the Ministry assumes the Canadian dollar will average 79.9 US cents in 2022 and 79.3 US cents in 2023.

Table 3.5 Private Sector Exchange Rate Forecasts

Average annual exchange rate (US cents/Canadian \$)	2022	2023
BMO	79.8	80.5
CIBC	76.9	76.6
National Bank	81.3	80.2
RBC	78.8	76.9
Scotiabank	82.2	81.8
TD	80.4	80.0
Average (as of January 4, 2022)	79.9	79.3

Table 3.6.1 Gross Domestic Product (GDP): British Columbia

	2020	2021 ^e	2022	2023	Forecast		
					2024	2025	2026
Gross Domestic Product at Market Prices:							
– Real (chained 2012 \$ billions)	265.8	279.0	290.1	297.4	303.6	311.1	318.1
(% change)	-3.4	5.0	4.0	2.5	2.1	2.4	2.3
– Nominal (current prices, \$ billions)	309.3	347.7	368.0	382.9	398.1	415.1	432.8
(% change)	-0.5	12.4	5.8	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.3
– GDP price deflator (2012 = 100)	116.4	124.6	126.8	128.7	131.1	133.4	136.0
(% change)	2.9	7.1	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.0
Real GDP per person (chained 2012 \$)	51,518	53,502	54,585	55,050	55,359	55,909	56,387
(% change)	-4.6	3.9	2.0	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.9
Real GDP per employed person							
(% change)	3.4	-1.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.2
Unit labour cost ¹ (% change)	3.5	5.5	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.3	1.3
Components of Real GDP at Market Prices (chained 2012 \$ billions)							
Household expenditure on							
goods and services	170.1	178.4	187.6	195.8	202.0	206.1	210.4
(% change)	-3.5	4.8	5.2	4.4	3.2	2.0	2.1
– Goods	72.2	78.1	78.9	80.1	81.4	82.6	83.9
(% change)	1.6	8.3	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5
– Services	98.1	100.4	108.9	115.9	120.8	123.6	126.7
(% change)	-6.8	2.4	8.4	6.4	4.2	2.3	2.4
NPISH ² expenditure on							
goods and services	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9
(% change)	0.0	2.4	4.1	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4
Government expenditure on							
goods and services	48.3	49.9	50.4	49.7	49.6	49.8	50.0
(% change)	1.1	3.5	0.8	-1.4	-0.1	0.5	0.4
Investment in fixed capital	70.4	78.3	79.8	80.5	80.8	82.5	84.4
(% change)	2.5	11.2	1.9	0.8	0.4	2.1	2.3
Final domestic demand	293.6	311.8	322.9	330.8	337.0	343.1	349.6
(% change)	-1.2	6.2	3.6	2.4	1.9	1.8	1.9
Exports of goods and services	95.0	96.6	99.2	101.7	105.1	110.5	115.4
(% change)	-9.7	1.7	2.7	2.5	3.3	5.2	4.4
Imports of goods and services	119.8	127.1	131.0	134.8	138.4	142.4	146.6
(% change)	-8.0	6.0	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.9
Inventory change	-2.0	-1.1	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
Statistical discrepancy	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Real GDP at market prices	265.8	279.0	290.1	297.4	303.6	311.1	318.1
(% change)	-3.4	5.0	4.0	2.5	2.1	2.4	2.3

¹ Unit labour cost is the nominal cost of labour incurred to produce one unit of real output.

² Non-profit institutions serving households.

^e B.C. Ministry of Finance estimate.

Table 3.6.2 Selected Nominal Income and Other Indicators: British Columbia

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Forecast		
					2024	2025	2026
Compensation of employees ¹ (\$ millions) ...	152,516	168,867 ^e	178,935	186,201	193,499	200,817	208,090
(% change)	0.0	10.7	6.0	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.6
Household income (\$ millions)	291,244	305,645 ^e	316,499	328,808	341,095	354,104	367,538
(% change)	7.0	4.9	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.8
Net operating surplus (\$ millions)	38,180	43,376 ^e	43,705	45,605	47,415	50,275	53,712
(% change)	19.1	13.6	0.8	4.3	4.0	6.0	6.8
Retail sales (\$ millions)	87,513	98,711 ^e	102,692	106,498	110,328	114,192	118,243
(% change)	1.3	12.8	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5
Housing starts (units)	37,903	47,607	38,022	36,001	35,032	35,078	35,147
(% change)	-15.6	25.6	-20.1	-5.3	-2.7	0.1	0.2
Residential sales (\$ millions)	73,469	115,858	93,172	88,417	90,393	92,579	94,782
(% change)	35.6	57.7	-19.6	-5.1	2.2	2.4	2.4
Residential sales (units)	94,001	124,877	97,101	90,160	90,194	90,387	90,544
(% change)	21.5	32.8	-22.2	-7.1	0.0	0.2	0.2
Residential average sale price (\$)	781,572	927,779	959,540	980,665	1,002,196	1,024,262	1,046,806
(% change)	11.6	18.7	3.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Consumer price index (2002 = 100)	132.4	136.1	140.0	143.1	146.0	149.0	152.0
(% change)	0.8	2.8	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0

¹ Domestic basis; wages, salaries and employers' social contributions.

^e B.C. Ministry of Finance estimate.

Table 3.6.3 Labour Market Indicators: British Columbia

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Forecast		
					2024	2025	2026
Population (thousands at July 1)	5,159	5,215	5,316	5,403	5,485	5,564	5,642
(% change)	1.3	1.1	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4
Net migration (thousands)							
– International ^{1,4}	3.6	73.2 ^e	71.6	67.8	64.1	64.5	63.5
– Interprovincial ⁴	22.1	33.7 ^e	15.0	15.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
– Total	25.8	107.0 ^e	86.6	82.8	76.1	76.5	75.5
Labour force population ² (thousands)	4,300	4,350	4,436	4,516	4,592	4,665	4,736
(% change)	1.4	1.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5
Labour force (thousands)	2,735	2,841	2,888	2,930	2,965	2,998	3,030
(% change)	-2.2	3.9	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.1
Participation rate ³ (%)	63.6	65.3	65.1	64.9	64.6	64.3	64.0
Employment (thousands)	2,491	2,656	2,729	2,773	2,807	2,842	2,873
(% change)	-6.6	6.6	2.8	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.1
Unemployment rate (%)	8.9	6.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.2

¹ International migration includes net non-permanent residents and returning emigrants less net temporary residents abroad.

² The civilian, non-institutionalized population 15 years of age and over.

³ Percentage of the labour force population in the labour force.

⁴ Components may not sum to total due to rounding.

^e BC Stats estimate.

Table 3.6.4 Major Economic Assumptions

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Forecast		2026
					2024	2025	
Real GDP							
Canada (chained 2012 \$ billions)	1,999	2,089 ^e	2,165	2,221	2,261	2,297	2,334
(% change)	-5.2	4.5	3.6	2.6	1.8	1.6	1.6
U.S. (chained 2012 US\$ billions)	18,385	19,427	20,127	20,590	20,960	21,316	21,679
(% change)	-3.4	5.7	3.6	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.7
Japan (chained 2015 Yen trillions)	528	536 ^e	551	558	562	564	567
(% change)	-4.5	1.5	2.8	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.5
China (constant 2010 US\$ billions)	11,793	12,748	13,347	14,014	14,715	15,421	16,162
(% change)	2.3	8.1	4.7	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8
Euro zone ¹ (chained 2015 Euro billions)	10,644	11,195	11,609	11,853	12,031	12,187	12,333
(% change)	-6.5	5.2	3.7	2.1	1.5	1.3	1.2
Industrial production index (% change)							
U.S.	-7.2	5.5	3.7	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.7
Japan	-10.1	5.5	4.6	1.8	1.0	0.7	0.7
China	1.8	10.9	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.4
Euro zone ¹	-7.9	7.3 ^e	3.0	2.5	1.5	1.3	1.2
Housing starts (thousands)							
Canada	217	271	215	195	190	190	190
(% change)	3.8	25.2	-20.7	-9.3	-2.6	0.0	0.0
U.S.	1,380	1,595	1,480	1,400	1,380	1,350	1,300
(% change)	6.9	15.6	-7.2	-5.4	-1.4	-2.2	-3.7
Japan	815	856	860	870	880	880	880
(% change)	-9.9	5.0	0.4	1.2	1.1	0.0	0.0
Consumer price index							
Canada (2002 = 100)	137.0	141.6	146.3	149.6	152.8	155.8	159.0
(% change)	0.7	3.4	3.3	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0
Canadian interest rates (%)							
3-month treasury bills	0.45	0.12	0.65	1.56	1.88	2.00	2.00
10-year government bonds	0.75	1.36	1.82	2.14	2.25	2.25	2.25
United States interest rates (%)							
3-month treasury bills	0.37	0.04	0.39	1.34	1.88	2.00	2.00
10-year government bonds	0.89	1.44	1.87	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.50
Exchange rate (US cents / Canadian \$)	74.6	79.8	79.9	79.3	78.9	79.1	79.2
British Columbia goods and services							
Export price deflator (% change)	0.5	14.6 ^e	-0.3	0.1	1.5	1.3	1.7

¹ Euro zone (19) is Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

^e B.C. Ministry of Finance estimate.

The Economic Forecast Council, *Budget 2022*

Introduction

In accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, the Minister of Finance, in preparing the provincial budget, consults the Economic Forecast Council (the Council or EFC) on British Columbia's economic outlook. The 13-member Council is comprised of leading economists from several of Canada's major financial and private research institutions.

The most recent meeting between the Minister and the EFC was on December 3, 2021, with Council members presenting their estimates for economic performance in 2021 and their forecasts for 2022 through 2026 and over the long-term. Key topics of discussion included: the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent floods on B.C.'s outlook; climate change; B.C.'s labour market; the outlook for inflation and immigration; and issues around economic competitiveness and well-being. Discussions on many of these topics continued in a separate meeting of an Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) Advisory Council later that day (see topic box on page 46).

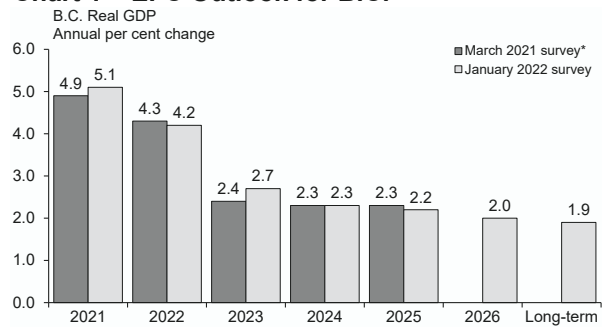
EFC members were welcome to revise their forecasts following the meeting until January 10, 2022 (10 of the 13 members chose to resubmit). Forecast details from the Council's surveys are summarized in the table at the end of this topic box.

British Columbia Outlook

On average, the Council estimates that B.C.'s economy rebounded by 5.1 per cent in 2021, more than recovering from the pandemic related contraction of 3.4 per cent in 2020. The Council's estimate for 2021 was 0.2 percentage points higher than its prior projection in March 2021. Members' latest forecasts call for B.C. economic growth of 4.2 per cent in 2022 and 2.7 per cent in 2023, down 0.1 percentage point in 2022 and up 0.3 percentage points in 2023 from their March outlook. Over the medium-term, the Council forecasts B.C.'s economy

to grow by 2.3 per cent in 2024, 2.2 per cent in 2025 and 2.0 per cent in 2026. Over the long-term, members forecast average growth of 1.9 per cent (see Chart 1).

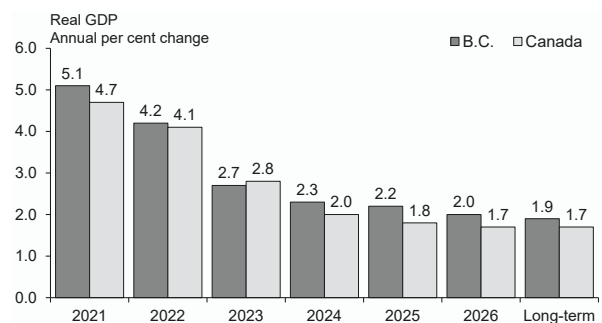
Chart 1 – EFC Outlook for B.C.



Source: Average of Economic Forecast Council forecasts.
*Forecasts for 2026 and the long-term were not part of the March 2021 survey.

The Council estimates that B.C.'s economy grew faster than Canada's in 2021, and forecasts relatively higher growth again in B.C. in 2022 partly due to expected recovery in the tourism sector and rebuilding work after the floods in late 2021. Except for 2023, B.C.'s economy is expected to grow faster than the national average throughout the forecast horizon (see Chart 2).

Chart 2 – EFC Outlook for B.C. and Canada



Source: Average of Economic Forecast Council forecasts.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a main issue underlying the Council's forecasts, with uncertainty about the economic impacts of Omicron and future variants. However, the Council agrees that consumer spending will continue to shift from goods to services as the pandemic fades over time, which will strengthen the still-struggling tourism sector.

B.C.'s floods in November 2021 were another key topic of discussion. There was some debate about whether the severe regional effects would result in reduced aggregate GDP growth in 2021 but there was consensus that rebuilding activity would add to growth in 2022. The Council advised building resilience via upgraded infrastructure and broader climate change adaptation, which will require substantial investments and careful planning. On the climate change mitigation side, the Council noted B.C.'s leadership and generally supported carbon pricing in B.C., although they acknowledged the need for a global framework to address climate change (and continued support for B.C.'s trade-exposed industries in the meantime). Some members also highlighted opportunities in B.C.'s mining sector on the path to a lower carbon economy.

The EFC noted the swift (albeit uneven) recovery in B.C. employment following the onset of the pandemic. While they agreed that B.C.'s labour market has generally outperformed other provinces, they identified labour shortages as an issue in the province with the potential to limit growth (particularly in hospitality, technology and high-skilled sectors). Looking ahead, the Council expects labour supply challenges to persist due to rising

retirement rates amid aging demographics. However, increasing immigration is expected to provide some offset as international mobility and the global public health situation improves. As such, members highlighted the ongoing need to continue to increase housing supply and improve housing affordability to attract talent and support shared prosperity in the province.

The Council also discussed B.C.'s competitiveness in attracting capital investment over the medium and long term, as well as how to measure the province's well-being and progress. It was noted that continued improvements to ESG policies and outcomes (as well as marketing B.C.'s strong performance to date) are critical to attracting capital. Members noted that continued reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples would bring more certainty to the investment community and create meaningful opportunities for Indigenous communities. Meanwhile, productivity growth was highlighted as a fundamental way to improve overall well-being, while measures like GDP per capita, cost of living, income inequality and unemployment rates across GBA+ identity factors are useful for assessing progress. The Council also pointed to economic diversification and fiscal discipline as ways to maintain and strengthen B.C.'s economic resilience.

**British Columbia Economic Forecast Council:
Summary of B.C. real GDP forecasts, annual per cent change**

Participant	Organization	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Long-term
Douglas Porter	Bank of Montreal ¹	4.8	4.6	3.7	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.0
Brendon Ogmundson	BC Real Estate Association ¹	5.5	3.8	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5
Ken Peacock	Business Council of BC ¹	5.3	3.8	2.5	2.2	2.9	2.2	2.5
Bryan Yu	Central 1 Credit Union ¹	5.0	4.3	2.6	2.3	2.2	1.9	n/a
Avery Shenfeld	CIBC ¹	4.2	3.4	2.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pedro Antunes	Conference Board of Canada	6.0	4.6	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7
Arlene Kish	IHS Markit	5.1	4.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	1.9	1.8
Sébastien Lavoie	Laurentian Bank Securities ¹	5.0	3.2	2.7	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7
Stéfane Marion	National Bank ¹	4.4	4.7	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.3
Craig Wright	RBC ¹	5.6	4.2	2.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jean-François Perrault	Scotiabank ¹	4.0	4.7	3.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aaron Stokes	Stokes Economics	5.7	5.1	2.9	3.2	2.9	2.2	n/a
Derek Burleton	TD ¹	5.2	3.9	2.5	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Average		5.1	4.2	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9
Standard Deviation		0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4

¹ Updated subsequent to the December 3, 2021 meeting.

Canadian Outlook

After an estimated gain of 4.7 per cent in 2021, the EFC expects Canadian real GDP to grow by 4.1 per cent in 2022. Similar to B.C., economic growth is forecast to continue slowing down thereafter, with the economy expanding by 2.8 per cent, 2.0 per cent, 1.8 per cent and 1.7 per cent each year from 2023 to 2026, respectively. The Council pegs average long-term economic growth in Canada at 1.7 per cent.

Consumer price inflation in Canada (and abroad) was a key topic of discussion and the Council’s views were mixed. Most members pointed to supply chain disruptions and transportation bottlenecks as the main reasons for high inflation in recent months, while others highlighted demand pressures. Most members see inflation trending lower and approaching 2 per cent in late 2022 or 2023. However, members noted uncertainty in the inflation outlook, which depends in part on price expectations, wage growth and the Bank of Canada’s response with interest rate hikes.

International Outlook

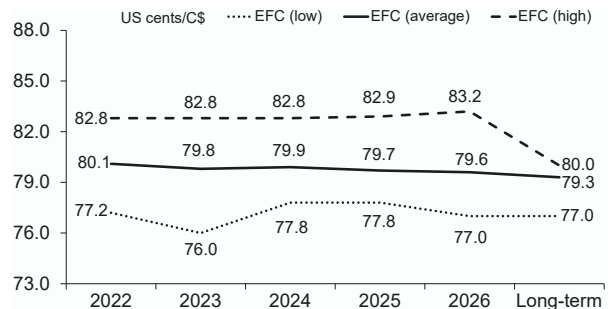
The Council forecasts U.S. real GDP growth of 3.9 per cent in 2022, following growth of 5.6 per cent the previous year. The EFC is calling for 2.7 per cent growth in 2023, 2.3 per cent in 2024, then 2.1 per cent annually in 2025 and 2026, and 1.9 per cent growth over the long-term.

EFC members discussed disruption and evolution in global supply chains, and potential opportunities for B.C. exporters to further diversify in international markets alongside continued protectionism in the U.S. The Council also noted slowing growth in China as a risk to the outlook.

Canadian Dollar

Council members’ projections for the Canadian dollar ranged from 77.2 US cents to 82.8 US cents in 2022 and from 76.0 US cents to 82.8 US cents in 2023. Over the medium-term, EFC forecasts ranged from lows of around 77 to 78 US cents to highs of around 83 US cents, while long-term forecasts ranged from 77.0 US cents to 80.0 US cents (see Chart 3).

Chart 3 – EFC Outlook for the Dollar



Source: Economic Forecast Council forecasts.

Forecast Survey – Participants’ Opinions

All figures are based on annual averages	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		Long-term	
	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹	Range	Average ¹
British Columbia														
Real GDP (% change)	4.0 – 6.0	5.1 (13)	3.2 – 5.1	4.2 (13)	1.5 – 3.8	2.7 (13)	1.7 – 3.2	2.3 (10)	1.7 – 2.9	2.2 (10)	1.4 – 2.5	2.0 (10)	1.3 – 2.5	1.9 (6)
Nominal GDP (% change)	9.0 – 14.2	11.6 (13)	3.5 – 8.7	6.1 (13)	2.5 – 7.4	4.7 (13)	3.2 – 5.0	4.3 (10)	3.3 – 5.4	4.3 (10)	3.2 – 4.7	4.0 (10)	3.1 – 5.0	4.0 (8)
GDP Deflator (% change)	3.5 – 9.0	6.4 (13)	-1.0 – 4.0	1.9 (13)	1.0 – 3.6	2.0 (13)	1.5 – 3.0	2.0 (10)	1.5 – 3.0	2.1 (10)	1.5 – 2.7	2.1 (10)	1.6 – 2.6	2.0 (8)
Real business non-residential investment (% change)	-8.6 – 19.3	3.9 (6)	2.1 – 13.0	7.2 (6)	-0.9 – 3.8	1.9 (6)	-5.0 – 4.0	-0.5 (6)	-6.8 – 4.1	0.5 (6)	-6.8 – 4.0	-0.7 (6)	1.9 – 3.0	2.3 (3)
Real business machinery and equipment investment (% change)	2.0 – 15.4	8.2 (5)	4.5 – 14.3	8.6 (5)	-3.3 – 6.8	3.2 (5)	-5.3 – 3.0	0.4 (5)	-5.4 – 4.0	0.8 (5)	-6.0 – 3.0	-1.5 (5)	2.1 – 3.0	2.6 (2)
Household income (% change)	3.1 – 9.0	5.4 (9)	3.0 – 5.7	4.5 (9)	3.0 – 5.4	4.1 (9)	2.8 – 5.8	4.0 (8)	2.8 – 5.1	3.8 (8)	2.8 – 4.6	3.7 (8)	3.0 – 4.0	3.6 (5)
Net Migration (thousand persons)	55.0 – 90.0	69.8 (10)	35.0 – 111.0	77.7 (10)	47.5 – 95.0	79.8 (10)	50.3 – 80.0	72.3 (9)	51.0 – 80.0	69.9 (9)	51.8 – 80.0	68.4 (9)	54.0 – 80.0	68.4 (6)
Employment (% change)	6.4 – 7.2	6.6 (12)	2.2 – 4.5	3.0 (12)	0.8 – 2.5	1.7 (12)	0.4 – 2.2	1.3 (10)	0.4 – 2.4	1.2 (10)	0.7 – 2.4	1.1 (10)	0.7 – 1.7	1.0 (7)
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5 – 6.7	6.5 (13)	4.2 – 5.8	5.1 (13)	3.7 – 5.5	4.7 (13)	4.0 – 5.2	4.6 (10)	3.9 – 5.1	4.6 (10)	3.9 – 5.3	4.6 (10)	3.8 – 5.0	4.5 (7)
Net operating surplus of corporations (% change)	-4.4 – 31.5	15.3 (7)	-17.8 – 10.0	0.5 (7)	-7.9 – 6.0	0.5 (7)	-6.3 – 5.0	0.9 (7)	1.8 – 11.5	5.4 (7)	2.3 – 10.7	5.3 (7)	2.5 – 5.0	3.8 (3)
Housing starts (thousand units)	45.0 – 47.9	46.8 (13)	35.0 – 45.0	40.0 (13)	34.8 – 45.7	38.7 (13)	31.6 – 43.0	37.7 (11)	29.1 – 43.0	37.0 (11)	28.0 – 42.0	35.6 (10)	25.0 – 38.0	32.6 (7)
MLS residential unit sales (thousand units)	112.0 – 125.1	121.9 (7)	80.0 – 109.7	101.0 (7)	80.0 – 104.3	91.9 (7)	80.0 – 105.4	91.8 (7)	85.0 – 106.3	92.9 (7)	85.0 – 107.6	92.9 (6)	85.0 – 109.2	92.3 (4)
MLS residential average sale price (\$ thousand)	915 – 946	924 (7)	960 – 995	976 (7)	950 – 1,015	984 (7)	950 – 1,030	996 (7)	950 – 1,077	1,022 (7)	985 – 1,061	1,028 (6)	1,000 – 1,039	1,013 (3)
Retail sales (% change)	9.3 – 15.0	12.7 (8)	-1.4 – 7.1	4.1 (8)	1.9 – 6.2	4.7 (8)	2.8 – 6.0	4.4 (7)	1.9 – 5.0	3.9 (7)	1.6 – 5.0	3.8 (7)	1.8 – 4.5	3.5 (4)
Consumer price index (% change)	2.7 – 3.1	2.8 (11)	2.4 – 3.3	2.8 (11)	1.9 – 2.9	2.2 (11)	1.9 – 2.9	2.1 (9)	1.9 – 2.5	2.0 (9)	1.9 – 2.5	2.0 (9)	2.0 – 2.0	2.0 (6)
United States														
Real GDP (% change)	5.4 – 5.9	5.6 (13)	3.5 – 4.3	3.9 (13)	2.1 – 3.2	2.7 (13)	1.8 – 2.7	2.3 (9)	1.6 – 2.7	2.1 (9)	1.6 – 2.7	2.1 (9)	1.5 – 2.2	1.9 (6)
Intended Federal Funds rate (%)	0.08 – 0.25	0.18 (12)	0.09 – 1.00	0.55 (12)	0.37 – 2.00	1.33 (12)	0.97 – 2.25	1.69 (9)	1.50 – 2.38	1.96 (9)	1.50 – 2.50	2.05 (8)	1.50 – 2.63	2.13 (6)
Housing starts (million units)	1.56 – 1.62	1.59 (12)	1.39 – 1.69	1.58 (12)	1.33 – 1.71	1.53 (12)	1.32 – 1.80	1.54 (9)	1.33 – 1.75	1.51 (9)	1.30 – 1.77	1.51 (9)	1.22 – 1.80	1.53 (6)
Canada														
Real GDP (% change)	4.5 – 5.1	4.7 (13)	3.5 – 4.4	4.1 (13)	1.6 – 3.5	2.8 (13)	1.6 – 2.3	2.0 (10)	1.4 – 2.2	1.8 (10)	1.5 – 2.0	1.7 (10)	1.5 – 1.8	1.7 (7)
Bank of Canada overnight target rate (%)	0.20 – 0.25	0.25 (12)	0.30 – 1.00	0.72 (12)	0.85 – 1.88	1.53 (12)	1.35 – 2.25	1.90 (10)	1.71 – 2.25	2.01 (10)	1.75 – 2.25	2.00 (9)	1.75 – 2.25	1.96 (7)
Exchange rate (US cents/C\$)	79.0 – 81.0	79.9 (13)	77.2 – 82.8	80.1 (13)	76.0 – 82.8	79.8 (13)	77.8 – 82.8	79.9 (10)	77.8 – 82.9	79.7 (10)	77.0 – 83.2	79.6 (9)	77.0 – 80.0	79.3 (6)
Housing starts (thousand units)	261 – 280	272 (13)	216 – 254	232 (13)	199 – 230	216 (13)	181 – 236	212 (11)	165 – 246	210 (11)	160 – 230	206 (10)	159 – 225	200 (7)
Consumer price index (% change)	3.3 – 3.5	3.4 (13)	2.4 – 4.5	3.2 (13)	1.8 – 3.0	2.3 (13)	2.0 – 2.8	2.1 (11)	1.9 – 2.5	2.0 (11)	2.0 – 2.2	2.0 (11)	2.0 – 2.0	2.0 (8)

¹ Based on responses from participants providing forecasts. Number of respondents shown in parentheses.

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Table 4.1 2021/22 Forecast Update

(\$ millions)	Budget 2021	First Quarterly Report	Second Quarterly Report	Third Quarterly Report
Revenue	58,929	65,154	68,207	70,220
Expense	(64,377)	(65,738)	(65,689)	(66,453)
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies	(3,250)	(3,250)	(3,250)	(3,250)
Forecast allowance	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Deficit	(9,698)	(4,834)	(1,732)	(483)
Capital Spending:				
Taxpayer-supported capital spending	8,479	8,166	8,141	7,157
Self-supported capital spending	4,976	4,588	4,582	3,828
	13,455	12,754	12,723	10,985
Provincial Debt:				
Taxpayer-supported debt	71,642	65,205	62,348	61,731
Self-supported debt	30,238	29,649	29,653	28,814
Total debt (including forecast allowance)	102,880	95,854	93,001	91,545
Taxpayer-supported debt to GDP ratio	22.8%	19.6%	18.2%	17.8%
Taxpayer-supported debt to revenue ratio	125.9%	103.8%	95.0%	92.9%

Introduction

The third-quarter fiscal outlook for 2021/22 forecasts a deficit of \$483 million, which is an improvement of \$1.2 billion from the second-quarter outlook reported last November. The largest change is in the net income projection for ICBC, up \$1.2 billion, which includes investment earnings and thus are not expected to carry forward to future periods. Higher revenues from taxation and natural resources are partly offset by higher statutory spending (wildfire, floods and other).

Operating forecast changes are illustrated in Chart 4.1, and additional detail is provided in Table 4.2, including changes in each quarter since budget.

The Province's operating results have improved significantly from the budget projection of a \$9.7 billion deficit. However, these results are not final as there remains much uncertainty in the last quarter of the fiscal year; as a result, the forecast allowance is unchanged at \$1.0 billion.

Capital spending for the year is lower by \$1.7 billion due to scheduling changes in taxpayer-supported and self-supported projects.

Due to the changes in operating results and capital spending, the taxpayer-supported debt forecast is lower by \$617 million from the *Second Quarterly Report* (see Table 4.5 on page 134 for details on the debt forecast).

Table 4.2 2021/22 Financial Forecast Changes

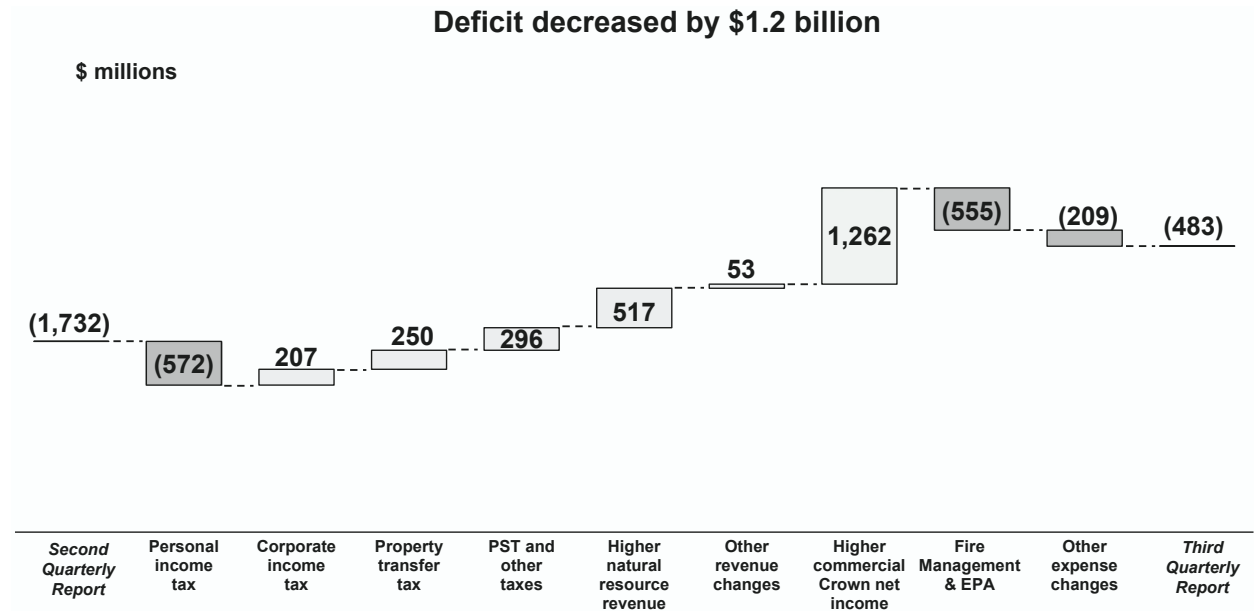
	(\$ millions)			
	(9,698)			(9,698)
		(4,834)		
			(1,732)	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
	Update	Update	Update	Changes
2021/22 deficit at Budget 2021 (April 20, 2021)	(9,698)			(9,698)
2021/22 deficit at the First Quarterly Report (September 13, 2021)		(4,834)		
2021/22 deficit at the Second Quarterly Report (November 22, 2021)			(1,732)	
Revenue changes:				
Personal income tax – changes in preliminary 2020 tax assessment, an improvement in household income and adjustments in 2021 relating to one-time gains in 2020 tax results.....	2,170	912	(572)	2,510
Corporate income tax – increase in installments reflecting an improved federal government outlook for 2021 national corporate taxable income, and a higher prior year settlement payment reflecting stronger 2020 tax assessments	1,234	214	207	1,655
Provincial sales tax – higher year-to-date results, retail sales, consumer expenditures and lower take up on tax measure relating to rebates on machinery & equipment	64	200	305	569
Property transfer tax – higher year-to-date activity reflecting strong housing market and demand	360	665	250	1,275
Fuel and carbon taxes – higher volume sales in most fuel types	94	36	(11)	119
Employer health tax – mainly expected improvement in employee compensation	127	35	45	207
Other taxation sources – mainly lower tobacco and insurance premium tax, reflecting year-to-date results partly offset by higher property tax revenues	(23)	1	(43)	(65)
Natural gas royalties – higher natural gas prices and natural gas liquids royalties, partly offset by increased utilization of royalty and infrastructure programs/credits	172	209	82	463
Mining – higher coal and copper prices and improved mine profitability	92	242	70	404
Electricity sales under the Columbia River Treaty – changes in Mid-C electricity prices	149	(16)	(57)	76
Forests – higher stumpage rates partly offset by impacts of deferrals in old-growth forests	230	(1)	414	643
Other natural resources – higher petroleum royalties, lower Oil and Gas Commission levies and changes in water rentals revenue	4	(7)	8	5
Fees, licences, investment earnings and miscellaneous revenue:				
Post-secondary institutions	126	165	73	364
Other sources – mainly higher revenue from motor vehicles fees, changes in health authorities and taxpayer-supported Crowns forecasts.....	42	(69)	(7)	(34)
Canada health and social transfers – mainly additional pandemic relief one-time funding supporting the recovery of health care systems and a higher B.C. share of national population	557	38	-	595
Other federal government transfers – higher transfers relating to the <i>Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i> and long term care as well as transfers to taxpayer-supported entities ..	356	14	(13)	357
Commercial Crown corporation net income – mainly due to improvements in BCLC and ICBC	471	415	1,262	2,148
Total revenue changes	6,225	3,053	2,013	11,291
Less: expense increases (decreases):				
Consolidated Revenue Fund changes:				
Statutory spending:				
Fire management costs	745	(169)	89	665
<i>Emergency Program Act</i>	33	23	466	522
B.C. Recovery Benefit and Increased Employment Incentive tax credit ¹	-	37	12	49
Housing and shelter related costs to support vulnerable populations during the pandemic	25	(25)	181	181
<i>Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate</i> and RCMP Collective Agreement	-	-	163	163
Other statutory spending	27	-	16	43
Refundable tax credits – mainly reflects preliminary 2020 tax assessment information	44	17	(86)	(25)
Management of public debt (net) and other expense changes	(31)	(36)	(1)	(68)
Spending funded by third party recoveries:				
<i>Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i> and health initiatives	221	-	-	221
Other spending funded by third party recoveries	27	18	16	61
Changes in spending profile of service delivery agencies:				
School districts	19	-	(17)	2
Universities	162	168	(28)	302
Colleges	28	7	(20)	15
Health authorities and hospital societies	1,412	756	236	2,404
Other service delivery agencies ²	98	(93)	11	16
(Increase) decrease in transfers to service delivery agencies (elimination)	(1,449)	(752)	(274)	(2,475)
Total expense changes	1,361	(49)	764	2,076
Total changes	4,864	3,102	1,249	9,215
2021/22 deficit at the First Quarterly Report	(4,834)			
2021/22 deficit at the Second Quarterly Report		(1,732)		
2021/22 deficit at the Third Quarterly Report			(483)	(483)

¹ Total program spending for the B.C. Recovery Benefit is forecast at \$62 million, however \$28 million is included in the Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies. Spending in 2020/21 was \$1.297 billion, bringing the total program spending to \$1.359 billion.

Total program spending for the Increased Employment Incentive tax credit is forecast at \$22 million, however \$7 million is included in the Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies.

² Includes BC Transportation Financing Authority, BC Transit, BC Housing Management Commission, Community Living BC, and other entities.

Chart 4.1 2021/22 Deficit – Major Changes from the *Second Quarterly Report*



Revenue

Total government revenue is now forecast to be \$2,013 million higher than the *Second Quarterly Report*. Major changes include:

- \$572 million decrease in personal income tax revenue, mainly reflecting weaker 2020 preliminary personal tax assessments results partly offset by an improvement in household income,
- \$207 million higher corporate income tax revenues mainly due to stronger 2020 preliminary corporate tax assessments results and higher corporate income tax payments from the federal government,
- \$546 million higher other taxation revenue sources mainly reflecting year-to-date information;
- \$517 million increase in natural resource revenue mainly due to the effects of higher stumpage rates and higher natural gas, coal and metal prices;
- \$66 million increase in revenue from fees, licences, investment earnings and miscellaneous sources mainly due to improvements in post-secondary institutions projections;
- \$13 million decrease in federal government contributions mainly due to reduced transfers to post-secondary institutions; and
- \$1,262 million increase in commercial Crown corporations' net income mainly due to higher net income projections from the Insurance Corporation of BC (\$1,207 million) as a result of higher investment earnings, and lower claims and operating costs.

Expense

Total government spending is now forecast to be \$764 million higher than the *Second Quarterly Report*. Major changes include:

- \$466 million statutory spending under the *Emergency Program Act* mainly for flood relief from the extreme weather events of November 2021;
- \$181 million statutory spending through the *Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account* to fund housing and shelter related costs to support vulnerable populations during the pandemic;
- \$163 million for the signed agreements under the *Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate* and the RCMP Collective Agreement;
- \$89 million in statutory spending for wildfires management; and
- \$43 million increase in other expenses.

These spending increases are partly offset by

- \$86 million in lower refundable tax transfers mainly reflecting stronger 2020 tax assessments; and
- \$92 million in lower net spending by various service delivery agencies.

Table 4.2 provides a detailed breakdown of changes in the operating results by quarter from *Budget 2021*.

Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies

Budget 2021 allocated \$3.25 billion to support ongoing measures related to the pandemic and short-term funding initiatives or new programs where the demand and costs may fluctuate as the pandemic and related health orders continue to evolve. This section provides an update on the notional allocations of the Province's pandemic measures as of December 31, 2021 (Table 4.3) as well as actual spending through the third quarter.

The total allocations to support pandemic and recovery initiatives remain unchanged at \$3.25 billion; however the forecasts for various initiatives have been revised to reflect updated information available. Major changes in the forecast allocations include:

- \$269 million increase to respond to additional waves of the pandemic including vaccine booster programs, preparation for child vaccines, and deployment of rapid testing; and
- \$191 million decrease to reflect internal ministry savings to accommodate costs associated with child care health and safety grants (\$18 million) and the K-12 Recovery Plan (\$18 million). The decrease is also a result of actual costs for temporary housing measures for vulnerable populations that are now funded through other appropriations (\$155 million).

Actual expenditures in the three quarters for Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies measures totalled \$1.79 billion. This includes:

- \$880 million for ongoing health-related measures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic;

- \$499 million for the Small and Medium Sized Business Grant Program, including the Circuit Breaker Grants; the Increased Employment Incentive; and the BC Recovery Benefit; and
- \$408 million across a number of other measures including the provision of COVID-19 related paid sick leave for workers, temporary housing, improving child care and K-12 health and safety, and initiatives to support the safe delivery of court services.

Note that the actual spending (April – December 2021) is based on unaudited ministry reports and subject to normal changes from quarterly estimation and adjustment processes.

An overview and description of the Province's COVID-19 pandemic response measures is provided starting on page 130.

Table 4.3 2021/22 Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies

\$ millions		Updated Forecast	
Category	Measures	Q2	Q3
Health and Safety	Health related COVID-19 management	1,775	2,044
Supports for Businesses and People	Temporary housing, meals and supports for vulnerable populations	265	40 ¹
	Small and Medium Sized Business Grants Program (Including Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant and COVID-19 Closure Relief Grant)	470	477
	Tourism, Art and other sector supports	130	164
	Increased Employment Incentive tax credit	4	7 ²
	B.C. Recovery Benefit	34	28 ³
	COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave	15	15
	Childcare health & safety grants and K-12 Recovery Plan	46	8 ⁴
	Non-Profit Recovery and Resiliency Fund	-	30
Preparing for Recovery	Essential services including justice services, agriculture/food security, and temporary assistance for vulnerable populations	129	77 ⁵
	Skills training and youth employment initiatives	70	70
Unallocated	Community infrastructure programs and CleanBC recovery investments	70	40 ⁶
	Reserve for additional health or recovery measures	242	250
Total		3,250	3,250

¹ Total notional allocation for temporary housing measures was at \$225 million. Based on actual spending, \$155 million of this has been accommodated through the *Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account*.

² Total program spending is forecast at \$22 million, however \$15 million is funded through statutory authority.

³ Total program spending is forecast at \$62 million, however \$34 million is funded through statutory authority.

⁴ These programs have been funded in full and \$36 million is funded through internal ministry savings.

⁵ Reduced allocation reflects lower than projected funding requirements for temporary income assistance.

⁶ Total spending reflects reallocation of funding for programming that has been reprofiled to 2022/23.

Government Employment (FTEs)

The projection of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff utilization in core government remains unchanged since the *Second Quarterly Report* at 33,400 FTEs. Further details on FTEs are provided in Table A13 in the appendix.

COVID-19 Pandemic Response Measures

The following provides an overview of the Province's pandemic response measures.

Health and Safety of British Columbians

COVID-19 Management (\$2,044 million): Funding related to health related COVID-19 response measures includes:

- Storage, distribution, and administration of COVID-19 vaccines to British Columbians;
- Population health measures such as contact tracing, flu immunization, laboratory testing and research costs, and a rural and remote response framework to ensure people in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities have access to critical health care during the pandemic;
- Additional funding for long-term care and assisted living facilities, including addressing increased COVID-19 related costs, implementing single-site work orders to help prevent the spread of disease between facilities, and hiring of up to three full-time equivalent staff at each of the 584 facilities;
- Implementing the Hospital at Home model of care, which allows British Columbians to receive health services outside of a hospital; and other increased operating costs including personal protective equipment, continuing support for HealthLinkBC, overtime salary costs in the healthcare system, and additional human resources capacity for health authorities to respond to COVID-19.

Supports for People and Businesses

Temporary housing, meals and health supports for vulnerable populations

(\$40 million): Spaces at hotels, motels and community centres are providing shelter to assist a range of people, including people experiencing homelessness, to self-isolate and follow health orders as well as receive food and support services. Nearly 2,200 leased spaces are currently secured at sites throughout B.C.'s health regions to enable safe physical distancing in homeless shelters and help people self-isolate, with close to 100 spaces in communities secured for women and children leaving violent or unstable situations.

Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant (incl. Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant and COVID-19 Closure Relief Grant) (\$477 million): Funding to provide relief for businesses affected by the March 30, 2021 provincial health orders and to help them position themselves for a strong recovery. The Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant Program supported businesses to diversify their services and products, modify physical space, move online, or offset fixed costs. The Circuit Breaker Business and COVID-19 Closure Relief Grants are providing funding to affected businesses to help offset expenses such as rent, insurance, employee wages, maintenance and utilities or other unexpected costs that resulted from the 'circuit breaker' restrictions. As of December 31, over 32,000 grants to businesses have been awarded through these programs in fiscal 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Tourism, Art, and other sector supports (\$164 million): Funding that helps to improve destinations by investing in tourism infrastructure, such as multi-use trails and wayfinding signage; supports for major anchor attractions and companies that service tourism attractions; and supports the safe restart of fairs, festivals and events. Funding provides financial relief for B.C. Pavilion Corporation to maintain operations during prolonged closures and health restrictions on major events. There are also supports to help the arts, culture and music sectors to manage through the pandemic by providing additional funding for the Arts Impacts and Amplify BC programs, as well as Resilience Supplement grants to existing BC Arts Council clients.

Increased Employment Incentive (\$7 million): A refundable tax credit incentive to employers intended to help B.C. businesses that were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to recover and help create good jobs for people. Employers were able to increase their payroll by hiring new employees, increasing the hours of existing employees, or giving existing employees a raise. As of December 31, 2021, over 3,200 applications have been approved, benefiting over 51,000 British Columbians.

B.C. Recovery Benefit (\$28 million): A one-time tax-free payment of up to \$1,000 for eligible families and single parents with annual household incomes under \$175,000 and up to \$500 for eligible individuals earning less than \$87,500 annually. The benefit helped individuals and families, including those in receipt of income and disability assistance. The program closed on June 30, 2021 and nearly 2 million applications were approved, benefiting over 2.7 million British Columbians.

COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave (\$15 million): Supports for workers to provide three days of paid sick leave related to COVID-19. The province reimburses employers without an existing sick leave program up to \$200 per day for each worker to cover costs. As of December 31, 2021, over 7,752 applications have been approved, benefiting over 20,118 British Columbians.

Child Care Health and Safety Grants and K-12 Recovery Plan (\$8 million): Funding for health and safety grants to child care providers for increased cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment, or space enhancement to ensure child care centres remain safe.

Funding also supports health and safety measures, First Nations and Métis students, mental health services, rapid response teams, and addressing learning impacts on students in the K-12 sector.

Non-Profit Recovery and Resilience Fund (\$30 million): Funding to provide support to charitable organizations that have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund will be administered by the Vancouver Foundation and the United Way BC to support organizations across B.C.

Other Essential services (\$77 million): Funding to ensure continuity of services includes:

- Continued supports for increased access to overdose prevention services and outreach teams, as well as enhanced drug checking services throughout B.C.;
- Justice sector initiatives to support the safe operations of courts through facilitating virtual court proceedings, electronic filing solutions and other system enhancements; and
- Continued supports for farmers and agricultural sector workers to safely access and accommodate temporary foreign workers.

Preparing for Recovery

Skills Training and Youth Employment Initiatives (\$70 million): Funding to support work-integrated learning, micro-credential training and short-term skills training programs to help re-train people to secure good-paying jobs and strengthen B.C.'s labour force. Funding also supports Indigenous People to gain new skills, transfer their training knowledge to other jobs, and participate in the labour market. Funding is also provided to create targeted employment opportunities for youth including: expansion of the Innovator Skills Initiative; the Recreation Sites and Trails B.C. youth program; the Clean Coast, Clean Waters program; and natural resource sector employment opportunities.

Community Infrastructure Programs (\$40 million): Funding to support CleanBC and cleantech jobs and invest in community infrastructure, including the Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy and the B.C. Parks Infrastructure Investment and Campsite Expansion.

Provincial Capital Spending

Capital spending is projected to total \$11.0 billion in 2021/22 — \$1.7 billion lower than the *Second Quarterly Report* forecast (see Table 4.4).

The forecast for taxpayer-supported capital spending is \$984 million lower than in the *Second Quarterly Report*, mainly due to changes in the timing of capital project spending in the health and transportation sectors, and timing of maintenance and acquisition of core government assets.

Self-supported capital spending is expected to be \$754 million lower than the forecast in the *Second Quarterly Report*, primarily due to updates to BC Hydro's capital plan to reflect timing of Site C cash flows. Project completion is forecast to meet the project in-service date in 2025 and within the approved budget of \$16 billion.

Table 4.4 2021/22 Capital Spending Update

	(\$ millions)			
	Q1 Update	Q2 Update	Q3 Update	Total Changes
Taxpayer-supported capital spending at Budget 2021	8,479			8,479
Taxpayer-supported capital spending at the First Quarterly Report		8,166		
Taxpayer-supported capital spending at the Second Quarterly Report			8,141	
Taxpayer-supported changes				
School districts	(17)	(5)	(139)	(161)
Post-secondary institutions	(213)	(1)	5	(209)
Health sector	97	73	(364)	(194)
Transportation sector	(206)	(61)	(210)	(477)
Social housing	29	(25)	(3)	1
Other net adjustments	(3)	(6)	(273)	(282)
Total taxpayer-supported changes	(313)	(25)	(984)	(1,322)
Taxpayer-supported capital spending - updated forecast	8,166	8,141	7,157	7,157
Self-supported capital spending at Budget 2021	4,976			4,976
Self-supported capital spending at the First Quarterly Report		4,588		
Self-supported capital spending at the Second Quarterly Report			4,582	
BC Hydro	(367)	-	(739)	(1,106)
Liquor Distribution Branch	(18)	(4)	-	(22)
Other net adjustments	(3)	(2)	(15)	(20)
Total self-supported changes	(388)	(6)	(754)	(1,148)
Self-supported capital spending - updated forecast	4,588	4,582	3,828	3,828
2021/22 total capital spending at the First Quarterly Report	12,754			
2021/22 total capital spending at the Second Quarterly Report		12,723		
2021/22 total capital spending at the Third Quarterly Report			10,985	10,985

Provincial Debt

The provincial debt is projected to total \$91.5 billion by the end of the fiscal year — \$11.3 billion lower than the projection at *Budget 2021*, and \$1.5 billion lower than the projection in the *Second Quarterly Report*.

Taxpayer-supported debt is projected to be \$61.7 billion — \$9.9 billion lower than the projection in *Budget 2021* largely due to improved operating results. The forecast is \$617 million lower than the *Second Quarterly Report* due to improved operating results as well as lower capital spending, partially offset by changes in working capital balances.

Self-supported debt is projected to be \$28.8 billion — \$1.4 billion lower than the projection in *Budget 2021*, and \$839 million lower than in the *Second Quarterly Report* mainly due mainly to lower capital spending.

Details on changes in provincial debt by quarter are shown in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 2021/22 Provincial Debt Update¹

	(\$ millions)			
	Q1 Update	Q2 Update	Q3 Update	Total Changes
Taxpayer-supported debt at <i>Budget 2021</i>	71,642			71,642
Taxpayer supported debt at the <i>First Quarterly Report</i>		65,205		
Taxpayer supported debt at the <i>Second Quarterly Report</i>			62,348	
Taxpayer-supported changes:				
Lower debt level from 2020/21	(206)	-		(206)
Annual deficit (before forecast allowance)	(4,864)	(3,102)	(1,249)	(9,215)
Non-cash items	(55)	3	66	14
Changes in cash balances ²	(1,523)	(67)	835	(755)
Changes in other working capital balances ³	524	334	715	1,573
Taxpayer-supported capital spending	(313)	(25)	(984)	(1,322)
Total taxpayer-supported changes	<u>(6,437)</u>	<u>(2,857)</u>	<u>(617)</u>	<u>(9,911)</u>
Taxpayer-supported debt - updated forecast	65,205	62,348	61,731	61,731
Self-supported debt at <i>Budget 2021</i>	30,238			30,238
Self-supported debt at the <i>First Quarterly Report</i>		29,649		
Self-supported debt at the <i>Second Quarterly Report</i>			29,653	
Self-supported changes:				
Lower debt level from 2020/21	(174)	-	-	(174)
Lower capital spending	(388)	(6)	(754)	(1,148)
Changes in internal financing	(27)	10	(85)	(102)
Total self-supported changes	<u>(589)</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>(839)</u>	<u>(1,424)</u>
Self-supported debt - updated forecast	29,649	29,653	28,814	28,814
Forecast Allowance - updated forecast	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2021/22 provincial debt forecast at the <i>First Quarterly Report</i>	95,854			
2021/22 provincial debt forecast at the <i>Second Quarterly Report</i>		93,001		
2021/22 provincial debt forecast at the <i>Third Quarterly Report</i>			91,545	91,545

¹ Provincial debt is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking funds and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province.

² Reflects changes in cash balances at April 1, 2021 and includes all cash balances from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, School Districts, Universities, Colleges, Health Authorities, Hospital Societies and other taxpayer-supported agencies.

³ Changes in other working capital balances include changes in accounts receivables, accounts payable, accrued liabilities, deferred revenue, investments, restricted assets and other assets.

Risks to the Fiscal Forecast

The forecasts of revenues, expenditures, capital spending and debt are estimates based on multiple economic, financial and external factors. In addition, capital spending and debt figures may be influenced by several factors including design development, procurement activity, weather, geotechnical conditions and interest rates. As a result, the actual operating results, capital expenditure and debt figures may differ from the current forecast.

Revenues can be volatile due in part to the influence of the cyclical nature of the natural resource sector in the economy. Changes in energy or commodity prices, such as natural gas and lumber, may have a significant effect on revenue and the fiscal forecast.

The spending forecast in the fiscal plan is based on ministry and service delivery agency plans and strategies. The main risks are changes to planning assumptions, such as utilization or demand rates for government services in the health care, education, or community social services sectors, and costs associated with natural disaster responses.

Supplementary Schedules

The following tables provide the financial results for the nine months ended December 31, 2021, and the 2021/22 full-year forecast.

Table 4.6 2021/22 Operating Statement

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22			Actual 2020/21	2021/22			Actual 2020/21
	Budget	Actual	Variance		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
Revenue	43,917	52,716	8,799	44,159	58,929	70,220	11,291	62,156
Expense	(45,425)	(48,265)	(2,840)	(47,161)	(67,627)	(69,703)	(2,076)	(67,624)
Surplus (deficit) before forecast allowance	(1,508)	4,451	5,959	(3,002)	(8,698)	517	9,215	(5,468)
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	-	-
Surplus (deficit)	(1,508)	4,451	5,959	(3,002)	(9,698)	(483)	9,215	(5,468)
Accumulated surplus (deficit) beginning of the year ..	(38)	2,525	2,563	7,993	(38)	2,525	2,563	7,993
Accumulated surplus(deficit) before comprehensive income	(1,546)	6,976	8,522	4,991	(9,736)	2,042	11,778	2,525
Accumulated other comprehensive income from self-supported Crown agencies	210	475	265	965	280	995	715	682
Accumulated surplus (deficit) end of period	(1,336)	7,451	8,787	5,956	(9,456)	3,037	12,493	3,207

Table 4.7 2021/22 Revenue by Source

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22			Actual	2021/22			Actual
	Budget	Actual	Variance	2020/21	Budget	Forecast	Variance	2020/21
Taxation								
Personal income	8,308	10,671	2,363	8,142	11,170	13,680	2,510	11,118
Corporate income	2,789	3,482	693	3,408	3,409	5,064	1,655	4,805
Employer health	1,451	1,575	124	1,369	1,923	2,130	207	2,156
Sales ¹	6,325	6,621	296	5,743	7,872	8,441	569	7,694
Fuel	757	798	41	693	983	1,039	56	936
Carbon	1,400	1,441	41	1,156	1,985	2,048	63	1,683
Tobacco	622	588	(34)	577	780	740	(40)	711
Property	2,208	2,245	37	1,709	2,970	3,020	50	2,313
Property transfer	1,599	2,573	974	1,493	1,975	3,250	1,275	2,098
Insurance premium	536	482	(54)	495	715	640	(75)	652
	25,995	30,476	4,481	24,785	33,782	40,052	6,270	34,166
Natural resource								
Natural gas royalties	210	484	274	93	286	749	463	196
Forests	894	1,474	580	705	1,204	1,847	643	1,304
Other natural resource revenues ²	785	1,169	384	655	1,042	1,527	485	903
	1,889	3,127	1,238	1,453	2,532	4,123	1,591	2,403
Other revenue								
Post-secondary education fees	1,664	1,750	86	1,604	2,508	2,539	31	2,418
Fees and licenses ³	1,502	1,480	(22)	1,373	2,129	2,185	56	1,911
Investment earnings	858	920	62	930	1,174	1,369	195	1,264
Miscellaneous ⁴	2,415	2,628	213	2,353	3,409	3,457	48	3,136
	6,439	6,778	339	6,260	9,220	9,550	330	8,729
Contributions from the federal government								
Health and social transfers	5,954	6,529	575	5,799	7,939	8,534	595	7,743
COVID-19 related funding	155	213	58	1,783	175	322	147	2,603
Other federal government contributions ⁵	1,555	1,631	76	1,148	2,416	2,626	210	2,548
	7,664	8,373	709	8,730	10,530	11,482	952	12,894
Commercial Crown corporation net income								
BC Hydro	304	306	2	309	712	681	(31)	688
Liquor Distribution Branch	897	960	63	929	1,099	1,153	54	1,161
BC Lottery Corporation ⁶	516	900	384	301	771	1,129	358	420
ICBC ⁷	165	1,692	1,527	1,265	154	1,904	1,750	1,528
Other ⁸	48	104	56	127	129	146	17	167
	1,930	3,962	2,032	2,931	2,865	5,013	2,148	3,964
Total revenue	43,917	52,716	8,799	44,159	58,929	70,220	11,291	62,156

¹ Includes provincial sales tax and HST/PST housing transition tax related to prior years.² Columbia River Treaty, other energy and minerals, water rental and other resources.³ Healthcare-related, motor vehicle, and other fees.⁴ Includes reimbursements for health care and other services provided to external agencies, and other recoveries.⁵ Includes contributions for health, education, community development, housing and social service programs, and transportation projects.⁶ Net of payments to the federal government and 2021/22 is also net of payments under the gaming revenue sharing agreement with First Nations.⁷ Does not include non-controlling interest.⁸ Includes Columbia Power Corporation, BC Railway Company, Columbia Basin power projects, and post-secondary institutions' self-supported subsidiaries.

Table 4.8 2021/22 Expense by Ministry, Program and Agency

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22			Actual	2021/22			Actual
	Budget	Actual	Variance	2020/21 ¹	Budget	Forecast	Variance	2020/21 ¹
Office of the Premier	11	10	(1)	8	15	15	-	11
Advanced Education and Skills Training	1,940	1,902	(38)	1,770	2,592	2,592	-	2,412
Agriculture, Food and Fisheries	88	102	14	93	100	100	-	150
Attorney General	947	975	28	860	1,272	1,272	-	1,495
Children and Family Development	1,704	1,542	(162)	1,498	2,393	2,393	-	2,440
Citizens' Services	441	475	34	522	604	604	-	665
Education	5,338	5,340	2	5,074	7,132	7,132	-	6,756
Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	64	110	46	67	109	109	-	252
Environment and Climate Change Strategy	187	235	48	214	301	328	27	708
Finance	716	601	(115)	953	990	1,399	409	1,781
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development	613	1,139	526	678	888	1,553	665	1,077
Health	17,116	17,371	255	16,179	23,873	23,873	-	24,155
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	95	170	75	92	179	179	-	314
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation	60	53	(7)	49	79	79	-	251
Labour	13	14	1	13	17	17	-	35
Mental Health and Addictions	10	7	(3)	5	13	13	-	42
Municipal Affairs	250	305	55	150	308	308	-	526
Public Safety and Solicitor General	670	781	111	702	901	1,423	522	1,057
Social Development and Poverty Reduction	3,237	3,195	(42)	2,752	4,360	4,360	-	4,483
Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport	125	118	(7)	131	162	162	-	352
Transportation and Infrastructure	708	704	(4)	695	949	949	-	1,232
Total ministries and Office of the Premier	34,333	35,150	817	32,505	47,237	48,860	1,623	50,194
Management of public funds and debt	1,005	970	(35)	944	1,340	1,285	(55)	1,246
Contingencies - General Programs and CleanBC ²	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies ²	-	1,787	1,787	4,250	3,250	3,250	-	2,041
Funding to agencies for capital expenditures	1,978	1,306	(672)	1,188	3,448	2,595	(853)	1,974
Refundable tax credit transfers	1,396	1,447	51	1,678	1,871	1,846	(25)	2,358
Legislative Assembly and other appropriations	128	115	(13)	148	174	174	-	207
Total appropriations	38,840	40,775	1,935	40,713	58,320	59,010	690	58,020
Elimination of transactions between appropriations ³	(11)	(10)	1	(11)	(14)	(15)	(1)	(15)
Prior year liability adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	(13)	(13)	(123)
Consolidated revenue fund expense	38,829	40,765	1,936	40,702	58,306	58,982	676	57,882
Expenses recovered from external entities	2,211	2,614	403	2,691	3,535	3,817	282	4,557
Elimination of funding provided to service delivery agencies	(24,771)	(25,128)	(357)	(24,092)	(33,682)	(35,303)	(1,621)	(34,096)
Total direct program spending	16,269	18,251	1,982	19,301	28,159	27,496	(663)	28,343
Service delivery agency expense								
School districts	5,301	5,272	(29)	4,980	7,482	7,484	2	7,083
Universities	3,943	3,988	45	3,761	5,510	5,812	302	5,272
Colleges and institutes	1,089	1,088	(1)	1,024	1,497	1,512	15	1,431
Health authorities and hospital societies	14,192	15,008	816	13,755	18,271	20,675	2,404	19,252
Other service delivery agencies	4,631	4,658	27	4,340	6,708	6,724	16	6,243
Total service delivery agency expense	29,156	30,014	858	27,860	39,468	42,207	2,739	39,281
Total expense	45,425	48,265	2,840	47,161	67,627	69,703	2,076	67,624

¹ Restated to reflect government's current organization and accounting policies.

² Contingencies for the prior fiscal year are reported in the relevant ministries' spending; the current year forecast is not yet allocated to ministry lines.

³ Reflects payments made under an agreement where an expense from a voted appropriation is recorded as revenue by a special account.

Table 4.9 2021/22 Expense by Function

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22			Actual 2020/21	2021/22			Actual 2020/21
	Budget	Actual	Variance		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
Health ¹	18,820	19,264	445	17,601	26,106	26,268	162	25,605
Education ²	11,326	11,060	(266)	10,270	15,805	16,061	256	14,943
Social services	5,265	5,112	(153)	4,403	7,172	7,242	70	7,789
Protection of persons and property	1,422	1,625	203	1,387	1,935	2,454	519	2,258
Transportation	1,623	1,658	35	1,571	2,336	2,373	37	3,360
Natural resources and economic development	2,188	2,739	550	2,195	3,467	4,008	541	4,191
Other	1,640	1,655	15	1,166	2,218	2,446	228	2,841
Contingencies - General Programs and CleanBC ³ ..	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies ³	-	1,787	1,787	4,250	3,250	3,250	-	-
General government	1,098	1,326	228	2,288	1,531	1,905	374	3,915
Debt servicing	2,043	2,039	(4)	2,030	2,807	2,696	(111)	2,722
Total expense	45,425	48,265	2,839	47,161	67,627	69,703	2,076	67,624

¹ Payments for healthcare services by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and the Ministry of Children and Family Development made on behalf of their clients are reported in the Health function.

² Payments for training costs by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction made on behalf of its clients are reported in the Education function.

³ Contingencies for the prior fiscal year are reported in the relevant functions; the current year forecast is not yet allocated to functions.

Table 4.10 2021/22 Capital Spending

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22			Actual	2021/22			Actual
	Budget	Actual	Variance	2020/21	Budget	Forecast	Variance	2020/21
Taxpayer-supported								
Education								
School districts	902	722	(180)	711	1,197	1,036	(161)	944
Post-secondary institutions	792	596	(196)	567	1,263	1,054	(209)	904
Health	1,153	699	(454)	597	2,245	2,051	(194)	1,162
BC Transportation Financing Authority	1,740	1,142	(598)	1,034	2,162	1,716	(446)	1,285
BC Transit	97	48	(49)	92	113	82	(31)	107
Government ministries	270	257	(13)	194	641	457	(184)	389
Social housing ¹	416	487	71	355	671	672	1	572
Other	150	42	(108)	52	187	89	(98)	65
Total taxpayer-supported	5,520	3,993	(1,527)	3,602	8,479	7,157	(1,322)	5,428
Self-supported								
BC Hydro	3,530	2,587	(943)	2,383	4,738	3,632	(1,106)	3,207
Columbia Basin power projects ²	7	5	(2)	3	9	9	-	7
BC Railway Company	8	2	(6)	1	11	4	(7)	1
ICBC	49	41	(8)	72	68	68	-	100
BC Lottery Corporation	72	31	(41)	31	96	83	(13)	73
Liquor Distribution Branch	40	16	(24)	14	54	32	(22)	22
Other ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Total self-supported	3,706	2,682	(1,024)	2,504	4,976	3,828	(1,148)	3,475
Total capital spending	9,226	6,675	(2,551)	6,106	13,455	10,985	(2,470)	8,903

¹ Includes BC Housing Management Commission and Provincial Rental Housing Corporation.

² Joint ventures of the Columbia Power Corporation and Columbia Basin Trust.

³ Includes post-secondary institutions' self-supported subsidiaries.

Table 4.11 2021/22 Provincial Debt ¹

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date to December 31				Full Year			
	2021/22		Actual 2020/21	Actual 2020/21	2021/22		Actual 2020/21	
	Budget	Variance			Budget	Variance		
Taxpayer-supported debt								
Provincial government								
Operating	13,404	6,063	(7,341)	4,312	14,939	5,719	(9,220)	8,746
Capital ²	36,219	35,716	(503)	35,827	37,180	37,058	(122)	33,872
Total provincial government	49,623	41,779	(7,844)	40,139	52,119	42,777	(9,342)	42,618
Taxpayer-supported entities								
BC Transportation Financing Authority	15,014	14,410	(604)	13,205	15,538	14,956	(582)	13,321
Health authorities and hospital societies.....	1,842	1,846	4	1,811	1,841	1,869	28	1,875
Post-secondary institutions	857	930	73	854	858	899	41	882
Social housing ³	1,002	1,026	24	1,364	990	958	(32)	770
Other	350	257	(94)	281	296	272	(24)	284
Total taxpayer-supported entities	19,065	18,469	(596)	17,515	19,523	18,954	(569)	17,132
Total taxpayer-supported debt	68,688	60,248	(8,440)	57,654	71,642	61,731	(9,911)	59,750
Self-supported debt	29,595	28,725	(870)	27,559	30,238	28,814	(1,424)	27,350
Total debt before forecast allowance	98,283	88,973	(9,310)	85,213	101,880	90,545	(11,335)	87,100
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Total provincial debt	98,283	88,973	(9,310)	85,213	102,880	91,545	(11,335)	87,100

¹ Provincial debt is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and presented consistent with the Debt Summary Report included in the *Public Accounts*. Debt is shown net of sinking funds and unamortized discounts, excludes accrued interest, and includes non-guaranteed debt directly incurred by commercial Crown corporations and debt guaranteed by the Province.

² Includes debt incurred by the government to fund the building of capital assets in the education, health, social housing and other sectors.

³ Includes the BC Housing Management Commission and the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation. BC Housing Management Commission has been approved for up to \$2 billion for future borrowing to fund investments in affordable housing through HousingHub. The debt forecast reflects projects that have been approved as of December 2021.

Table 4.12 2021/22 Statement of Financial Position

(\$ millions)	Actual March 31, 2021	Year-to-Date December 31, 2021	Forecast March 31, 2022
Financial assets:			
Cash and temporary investments	6,560	5,359	3,289
Other financial assets	15,399	17,017	15,748
Sinking funds	492	509	513
Investments in commercial Crown corporations:			
Retained earnings	9,623	11,462	12,529
Recoverable capital loans	26,301	27,690	27,540
Total investments in commercial Crown corporations	35,924	39,152	40,069
Total financial assets	58,375	62,037	59,619
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	13,092	11,298	13,506
Deferred revenue	12,185	13,731	12,956
Debt:			
Taxpayer-supported debt	59,750	60,248	61,731
Self-supported debt	27,350	28,725	28,814
Forecast allowance	-	-	1,000
Total provincial debt	87,100	88,973	91,545
Add: debt offset by sinking funds	492	509	513
Less: guarantees and non-guaranteed debt	(1,335)	(1,332)	(1,278)
Financial statement debt	86,257	88,150	90,780
Total liabilities	111,534	113,179	117,242
Net liabilities	(53,159)	(51,142)	(57,623)
Capital and other non-financial assets:			
Tangible capital assets	52,781	54,838	57,319
Other non-financial assets	3,585	3,755	3,341
Total capital and other non-financial assets	56,366	58,593	60,660
Accumulated surplus (deficit)	3,207	7,451	3,037

Changes in Financial Position

(\$ millions)	Year-to-Date December 31, 2021	Forecast March 31, 2022
Deficit/(Surplus) for the period	(4,451)	483
Comprehensive income (increase) decrease	207	(313)
Decrease (increase) in accumulated surplus	(4,244)	170
Capital and other non-financial asset changes:		
Taxpayer-supported capital investments	3,993	7,157
Less: amortization and other accounting changes	(1,936)	(2,619)
Increase in net capital assets	2,057	4,538
Increase (decrease) in other non-financial assets	170	(244)
Increase in capital and other non-financial assets	2,227	4,294
Increase (decrease) in net liabilities	(2,017)	4,464
Investment and working capital changes:		
Investment in commercial Crown corporations:		
Increase in retained earnings	1,839	2,906
Self-supported capital investments	2,682	3,828
Less: loan repayments and other accounting changes	(1,293)	(2,589)
Increase in investment in commercial Crown corporations	3,228	4,145
Increase (decrease) in cash and temporary investments	(1,201)	(3,271)
Increase (decrease) in other working capital	1,883	(815)
Increase (decrease) in Investment and working capital	3,910	59
Increase in financial statement debt	1,893	4,523
Decrease in sinking fund debt	(17)	(21)
Decrease in guarantees and non-guaranteed debt	(3)	(57)
Increase in total provincial debt	1,873	4,445

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A1: Tax Expenditures

Introduction

Tax expenditures reduce the amount of tax a taxpayer pays and are used to deliver government programs or benefits through the tax system. Tax expenditures are usually made by offering special tax rates, exemptions or credits. Governments introduce tax expenditures primarily to achieve social policy objectives such as transfers to lower-income families or to promote economic development and job creation.

Reporting tax expenditures improves government accountability by providing a more complete picture of government activities. Beginning with *Budget 2012*, refundable tax transfers are accounted for in a voted appropriation. For transparency and consistency with previous tax expenditure reports, Tables A1.1.1 and A1.1.2 also report on these tax transfers.

The Role of Tax Expenditure Programs

Using the tax system to deliver programs can reduce administration costs and compliance costs for recipients. In certain situations, the tax system allows intended beneficiaries to be readily identified from information that is already collected. In these cases, setting up a separate expenditure program would result in costly overlap and duplication of effort. An example is the climate action tax credit, which is delivered through the income tax system by the Canada Revenue Agency. If this were a direct provincial expenditure program, a provincial agency or office would have to be established to duplicate much of the work already done by the Canada Revenue Agency. In addition, it would require individuals to undertake a separate, time-consuming application process to qualify for the benefit.

There are several potential drawbacks to tax expenditure programs. First, their overall cost often receives less public scrutiny than is the case for spending programs because annual budget appropriations by the legislature are not typically required. Second, tax expenditure programs do not always effectively target those who are intended to benefit from them. Some tax expenditure programs that are intended to provide tax relief for lower-income earners may, in reality, provide the greatest benefit to higher-income earners who pay the most taxes. Finally, costs are often more difficult to control under a tax expenditure program because the benefits tend to be more open-ended and enforcement is often more difficult than for spending programs.

Tax Expenditure Reporting

Not all tax reductions, credits, exemptions and refunds are classed as tax expenditures.

The emphasis is on tax reductions, credits, exemptions and refunds that are close equivalents to spending programs. By implication, the list does not include tax measures designed to meet broad tax policy objectives such as improving fairness in the tax system or measures designed to simplify the administration of a tax. The list also does not include anything that is not intended to be part of a tax base.

Tax expenditures that cost less than \$2 million annually are generally not included. Where practical, smaller items have been presented together as an aggregate figure or have been excluded to ensure taxpayer confidentiality is maintained.

British Columbia Tax Expenditures

Tables A1.1.1 to A1.6 report tax expenditure estimates.

The cost of individual tax expenditures cannot be added together to reach a total tax expenditure figure for two reasons: in some cases, the programs interact with one another so that eliminating one program could increase or decrease the cost of another; and eliminating certain tax expenditure programs could change the choices taxpayers make, which in turn would affect the cost estimates.

The estimates for each tax expenditure are based on a static analysis of the costs and do not consider any behavioural changes, which could change the costs over time. In addition, estimates are generally recalculated each year using current data sources and using refinements to the methods of estimation, which can result in significant changes to the value of a given tax expenditure from prior years' reports.

Tables A1.1.1 and A1.1.2 list tax programs delivered through refundable personal and corporate income tax credits, respectively. Refundable tax credits can be used to reduce income tax liabilities with any remainder refunded to the taxpayer. These tax credits are reported in a voted appropriation.

Tables A1.2.1 and A1.2.2 list tax expenditures that are deductions, exemptions or non-refundable tax credits for personal and corporate income tax, respectively. Deductions reduce taxable income, whereas non-refundable tax credits can only be used to reduce income taxes payable. The tables include both provincial measures and federal measures. Federal measures are deductions and exemptions that reduce British Columbia income tax. Under the tax collection agreement between British Columbia and the federal government, the federal government has sole responsibility for determining income subject to tax, including British Columbia tax.

Table A1.3 lists property tax exemptions and grants. Property tax exemptions can reduce the tax owing or remove a property from tax. Grants reduce the final tax owing and may be refunded after full payment has been received. Exemptions are used to define the tax base; estimates for property tax expenditures for government entities, municipalities, colleges, schools, hospitals and similar public facilities are not shown.

Table A1.4 lists consumption tax exemptions. Fuel tax estimates include point-of-sale exemptions for certain individuals and businesses, and refunds if fuel is purchased then subsequently used for an exempt purpose. Provincial sales tax exemptions are typically point-of-sale exemptions and either apply to everyone at the point of sale or apply in certain circumstances with appropriate documentation.

Table A1.5 reports employer health tax expenditures.

Table A1.6 reports an insurance premium tax exemption for marine insurance.

More information on British Columbia tax expenditures in Tables A1.1.1 to A1.6 can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes>. Information on federal tax expenditures in Tables A1.2.1 and A1.2.2 can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/income-tax.html>.

Table A1.1.1 Personal Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Refundable Tax Credits)

	2020/21 Actual Cost ¹ (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost ² (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
BC Child Opportunity Benefit	146	425	425
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax-free monthly payment made to eligible families to help with the cost of raising children under age 18. • The maximum benefit is \$1,600 for a family's first child, \$1,000 for a second child and \$800 for each subsequent child. • Started October 1, 2020. 			
BC Recovery Benefit	1,307	52	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a one-time tax-free payment to British Columbians of \$500 per individual or \$1,000 per family. • The benefit was reduced between \$62,500 and \$87,500 of net income for individuals and \$125,000 and \$175,000 of family net income for families. 			
Climate action tax credit	783	330	363
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps offset the impact of the carbon taxes paid by low- to moderate-income individuals and families. • The benefit varies based on the composition of the family and their family net income. • Includes a one-time enhanced payment in July 2020 made as part of B.C.'s COVID-19 Action Plan. • Introduced in 2008 with the carbon tax. 			
Early childhood tax benefit	137	-	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax-free monthly payment made to eligible families to help with the cost of raising children under age 6. • The maximum benefit was \$660 per year per child under the age of 6 and was reduced between family net income of \$100,000 and \$150,000. • The early childhood tax benefit was replaced with the BC Child Opportunity Benefit effective October 1, 2020. 			
Emergency Benefit for Workers	645	-	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a one-time tax-free payment of \$1,000 to British Columbians who lost income or employment between March 1, 2020 and September 26, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. • Introduced as part of B.C.'s COVID-19 Action Plan and ended on December 2, 2020. 			
Home renovation tax credit for seniors and persons with disabilities	4	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists eligible individuals 65 and over and persons with disabilities with the cost of certain permanent home renovations to improve accessibility or be more functional or mobile at home. • Recipients may receive up to 10 per cent of qualifying renovation expenses, up to a maximum of \$10,000 of qualifying renovation expenses or \$1,000. • Introduced in 2012. 			
Sales tax credit	65	9	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps offset the cost of provincial sales tax for low-income individuals and families. • The maximum benefit is \$75 for individuals and \$150 for couples. • Reintroduced in 2013 in conjunction with reimplementation of the provincial sales tax. 			
Small business venture capital tax credit	29	33	33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages investors to make early-stage equity investments that help B.C. small businesses develop and grow. • Individuals receive a credit of up to 30 per cent of their investment and may claim a benefit of up to \$120,000 per tax year. • A temporary tax credit budget increase of \$2.5 million for the 2022 to 2024 years supports additional investments in clean technology. • Introduced in 1979. 			
Training tax credits ³	12	8	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides refundable income tax credits for apprentices based on the apprenticeship level completed. • Provides refundable income tax credits for employers of up to 15 per cent of apprentices' salaries. • Includes shipbuilding and ship repair industry tax credit. • Introduced in 2007. Sunset date of December 31, 2024. 			

¹ Figures include prior year adjustments of \$1 million for the early childhood tax benefit, \$1 million for the home renovation tax credit for seniors and persons with disabilities, -\$3 million for the sales tax credit and -\$1 million for the small business venture capital tax credit.

² Figures include prior year adjustments of -\$1 million for the home renovation tax credit for seniors and persons with disabilities, -\$41 million for the sales tax credit, -\$1 million for the small business venture capital tax credit and -\$4 million for the training tax credits.

³ Training tax credits for corporations are listed in Table A1.1.2. The training tax credit for individuals includes tax credits for apprentices and unincorporated employers.

Table A1.1.2 Corporate Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Refundable Tax Credits)

	2020/21 Actual Cost ¹	2021/22 Estimated Cost ²	2022/23 Planned Cost
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Book publishing tax credit	2	2	3
• Supports book publishers that carry out business primarily in B.C.			
• Introduced in 2003.			
• Sunset date of March 31, 2026.			
Film Incentive BC tax credit	171	73	120
• Supports the production of film or television productions in B.C. The Film Incentive BC tax credit is for domestic productions meeting Canadian content requirements.			
• Basic, regional location and film training tax credits were introduced in 1998.			
• Digital animation and visual effects (DAVE) tax credit was introduced in 2008, and expanded to post-production activities in 2015.			
• Distant location tax credit was introduced in 2009.			
• B.C.-based scriptwriters tax credit was introduced in 2018.			
• Tax credit does not have a sunset date.			
Production services tax credit	704	582	715
• Supports the production of film or video productions in B.C. The production services tax credit is available to both domestic and foreign producers.			
• Introduced in 1998.			
• Regional location tax credit and digital animation and visual effects (DAVE) tax credit introduced in 2008. Post-production activities became eligible for the DAVE credit in 2015.			
• Distant location tax credit was introduced in 2009.			
• Tax credit does not have a sunset date.			
Interactive digital media tax credit	91	86	80
• Supports the development of interactive digital media products in B.C.			
• In 2017, eligibility was expanded to small business venture capital corporations, and principal business requirements were relaxed for corporations with annual qualifying B.C. labour expenditures greater than \$2 million.			
• Introduced in September 2010. Sunset date of August 31, 2023.			
International business activity program tax refunds	2	10	-
• Provided eligible corporations, certain foreign banks authorized to carry on business in Canada and specialists employed by these entities a refund of B.C. income tax paid on income related to the corporation's international business carried on in B.C.			
• Program eliminated effective September 12, 2017. The cost represents refunds paid in respect of eligible income earned before September 12, 2017.			
Mining exploration tax credit	29	28	25
• Supports eligible corporations conducting grassroots mineral exploration in B.C.			
• Introduced for expenditures incurred after July 31, 1998; expanded to active partners in partnerships effective after March 31, 2003 and enhanced tax credit for prescribed areas introduced effective after February 20, 2007.			
• Tax credit does not have a sunset date.			
Scientific research and experimental development tax credit ³	121	81	97
• Supports research and development carried on in B.C.			
• Capital expenditures removed from qualifying expenditures effective after 2013 and taxable income removed from calculation of refundable tax credit expenditure limit for taxation years ending after March 18, 2019.			
• Introduced effective September 1, 1999. Sunset date of August 31, 2027.			

¹ Figures include prior year adjustments of -\$1 million for the book publishing tax credit, \$53 million for the Film Incentive BC tax credit, \$18 million for the production services tax credit, \$17 million for the interactive digital media tax credit, \$9 million for the mining exploration tax credit, \$25 million for the scientific research and experimental development tax credit and \$2 million for the training tax credits.

² Figures include prior year adjustments of -\$39 million for the Film Incentive BC tax credit, -\$88 million for the production services tax credit, \$6 million for the interactive digital media tax credit, \$3 million for the mining exploration tax credit, -\$11 million for the refundable portion of the scientific research and experimental development tax credit and \$1 million for the training tax credits.

³ The scientific research and experimental development tax credit has a non-refundable component, which is reported in Table A1.2.2.



Table A1.1.2 Corporate Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Refundable Tax Credits) (continued)

	2020/21 Actual Cost	2021/22 Estimated Cost	2022/23 Planned Cost
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Training tax credits ⁴	12	12	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides refundable income tax credits for employers of up to 15 per cent of apprentices' salaries. • Includes shipbuilding and ship repair industry tax credit. • Introduced in 2007. Sunset date of December 31, 2024. 			

⁴ Training tax credits for individuals are reported in Table A1.1.1.

Table A1.2.1 Personal Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Deductions and Non-Refundable Tax Credits)

	2020/21 Actual Cost	2021/22 Estimated Cost	2022/23 Planned Cost
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Provincial Measures			
Age tax credit	108	112	116
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an income-tested tax credit to elderly British Columbians. • Introduced in 2000. 			
BC caregiver tax credit	6	6	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who care for family members with a disability. • Introduced in 2018 in response to changes to the federal caregiver tax credit. 			
Canada Pension Plan tax credit	199	209	214
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who make Canada Pension Plan contributions. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Charitable donations tax credit	300	302	307
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who make charitable donations to registered charities and eligible donees. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Disability tax credit	40	42	43
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to persons with a disability. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Employment Insurance tax credit	59	62	63
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who pay Employment Insurance premiums. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Medical expense tax credit	68	69	70
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who make sufficient qualifying medical expenditures. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Mining flow-through share tax credit	20	25	25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who invest in flow-through shares on renounced mining expenditures. • Introduced in 2001. 			
Pension tax credit	30	30	31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who receive amounts from private pension plans. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Political contribution tax credit	3	4	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who donate to provincial political parties, constituency associations or candidates. • Introduced in 2000. Prior to 2000, B.C. had a similar deduction, rather than a credit. 			



**Table A1.2.1 Personal Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Deductions and Non-Refundable Tax Credits)
(continued)**

	2020/21 Actual Cost	2021/22 Estimated Cost	2022/23 Planned Cost
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Provincial Measures (continued)			
Spousal and eligible dependant tax credits	85	86	87
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit to individuals who have a low-income spouse, or to single parents who support a minor child. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Tuition tax credit	70	71	72
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a tax credit for tuition paid to a post-secondary institution. • Costs also include education tax credit amounts in respect of studies prior to the elimination of that tax credit in 2019, which have been carried forward. • Unused tax credits may be carried forward to future years. • Introduced in 2000. 			
Federal Measures ¹			
Child care expense deduction	51	60	72
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows families to deduct child care costs from taxable income. • Introduced in 1972. 			
Non-taxation of business-paid health and dental benefits	181	190	200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for private health and dental benefits to not be taxed. • Introduced in 1948. 			
Northern residents deduction	15	17	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a deduction to individuals living in northern communities. • Introduced in 1987. 			
Pension income splitting	92	107	115
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for spouses to split pension income, other than income from the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security. • Introduced in 2007. 			
Registered pension plans	1,395	1,422	1,481
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows amounts contributed to a pension plan to be deducted from taxable income. • Introduced in 1919. 			
Registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs)	826	810	851
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows amounts contributed to an RRSP to be deducted from taxable income. • Introduced in 1957. 			
Tax-free savings accounts (TFSA)	66	67	85
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for investment income to be earned tax-free within a TFSA. • Introduced in 2009. 			

¹ These measures show the foregone provincial revenue resulting from federal measures. Each measure is calculated from the 2021 federal cost projections as reported in the Government of Canada's *Report on Federal Tax Expenditures 2021* by applying British Columbia residents' share of the measure and the relevant tax rates. Certain tax expenditure items have been excluded where no data is available or the amounts are immaterial.

Table A1.2.2 Corporate Income Tax – Tax Expenditures (Deductions and Non-Refundable Tax Credits)

	2020/21 Actual Cost (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
Provincial Measures			
Small business venture capital tax credit	3	3	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See description under Table A1.1.1. • Corporations receive a credit of up to 30 per cent of their investment. There is no annual limit on the benefit that can be claimed. 			
Scientific research and experimental development tax credit ¹	77	110	109
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See description under Table A1.1.2. 			
Small business corporate income tax rate	1,445	1,560	1,610
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a reduced income tax rate for Canadian-controlled private corporations on active business income up to \$500,000. • The small business corporate income tax rate was reduced to 2 per cent from 2.5 per cent effective April 1, 2017. • Includes savings for credit unions, which are also reported below. • Introduced in 1975. 			
Small business corporate income tax rate for credit unions	26	28	29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a reduced income tax rate for credit unions on a portion of taxable income. • Introduced in 1977. • This tax credit expenditure reflects the savings provided to credit unions from the small business rate. These expenditures are a subcomponent of the small business corporate income tax rate expenditure. • In 2017, expanded access for credit unions to the provincial small business rate continued despite the phase-out of the corresponding federal measure. 			
Federal Measure ²			
Charitable donations deduction	82	82	92
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally permits corporations to deduct charitable donations made to registered charities up to a maximum of 75 per cent of the corporation's taxable income. The limit may be exceeded for donations of certain items. • Encourages corporations to make donations to charities. • Introduced in 1929 for certain charities, and expanded to all charities by 1933. 			

¹ The scientific research and experimental development tax credit has a refundable component, which is reported in Table A1.1.2.

² The deduction for corporate charitable donations is a federal measure but the estimate shows only the foregone provincial revenue. This is calculated from the 2021 federal cost projection as reported in the Government of Canada's *Report on Federal Tax Expenditures 2021* by applying British Columbia's share of corporate taxable income and the relevant tax rates to the federal estimate.

Table A1.3 Property Taxes – Tax Expenditures

	2020/21 Actual Cost (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
School and Rural Area Property Tax			
Assessment exemption of \$10,000 for business properties ¹	6	5	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed improvement values for property tax are reduced by \$10,000 for each industrial and business property. • Introduced in 1984. 			
Overnight tourist accommodation assessment relief ¹	2	2	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces the taxable assessed value of smaller tourist accommodation properties. • Introduced in 1988. Assessment reductions for properties in rural areas were increased in 2016. 			
Home owner grant	857	874	892
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces property taxes for Canadians and permanent residents of Canada who use the property as their principal residence. The benefit relative to tax paid is greater for lower-valued homes. • The grant is phased out on properties with an assessed value above a threshold value. Low-income seniors and some other low-income individuals may be eligible for a low-income grant supplement if some or all of the grant is reduced because of the phase-out. • The grant is up to \$275 higher for seniors, eligible veterans and people with disabilities. • The northern and rural area home owner benefit was introduced in 2011, which provides a \$200 higher grant outside the Metro Vancouver, Capital and Fraser Valley regional districts. • Introduced in 1957. 			

¹ Estimates are for the most recent calendar year of the fiscal year and include only school and rural area property taxes levied by the Province.



Table A1.3 Property Taxes – Tax Expenditures (continued)

	2020/21 Actual Cost	2021/22 Estimated Cost ¹
	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Property Transfer Tax		
Exemptions for the following:		
First time home buyers	74	72
• Exempts Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada who purchase their first home.		
• The homeowner must live in the home as their principal residence for at least one year after purchase and the property must have a fair market value of \$500,000 or less. A phase-out applies for homes up to \$525,000.		
• Introduced in 1994.		
Newly built home	80	89
• Exempts Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada from property transfer tax for a newly built home with a fair market value of up to \$750,000. A partial exemption applies up to \$800,000.		
• The homeowner must live in the home for at least one year after purchase. There is no requirement to live in B.C. before the purchase.		
• Introduced in 2016.		
Property transfers between related individuals	148	179
• Long-standing exemption for spousal and intergenerational transfers for principal residences, recreational properties and family farms and in the event of a division of property due to divorce or marital breakdown. Available to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.		
Property transfers to municipalities, regional districts, hospital districts, library boards, school boards, water districts	16	22
• Long-standing exemption for transfers to specified public bodies.		
Property transfers to charities registered under the <i>Income Tax Act (Canada)</i>	16	12
• Long-standing exemption for transfers of properties to a registered charity or a specified individual where the land will be used for a charitable purpose.		
Speculation and Vacancy Tax ²		
\$2,000 tax credit for B.C. residents	5	
• Provides a tax credit of up to \$2,000 for owners who are B.C. residents on the first \$400,000 of their property value subject to the tax.		
Income tax credit for non-B.C. residents who pay B.C. income tax	3	
• Provides a tax credit to reduce a non-B.C. resident's tax payable based on their B.C. income.		
Exemptions for the following: ³		
Recently acquired or inherited property	104	
• Provides an exemption from tax for a property that is purchased or acquired in the calendar year.		
Temporary extended absence	4	
• Provides an exemption from tax when an owner is absent from their principal residence.		
Separation or divorce	5	
• Provides an exemption from tax for owners who are going through a separation or divorce.		
Death of an owner	18	
• Provides an exemption from tax for owners in the calendar year of an owner's death and the following year.		
Rental restricted property	28	
• Provides a temporary exemption from tax for property with a rental restriction bylaw or covenant until 2022.		
Hazardous or damaged residential property	12	
• Provides an exemption from tax for property that is damaged by natural disaster or is uninhabitable.		
Strata accommodation property	3	
• Provides an exemption from tax for property that is a strata hotel.		
Daycares	2	
• Provides an exemption from tax for property that is used as a licenced daycare.		

¹ Future costs for first time home buyers' program and newly built home exemption will vary depending on completion and sale of new homes below the threshold value and by activity of first-time buyers in the market. Other property transfer tax exemptions will be more stable over time.

² Certain exemptions such as the principal residence exemption, occupied by a tenant exemption and land under development exemption, are intended to exclude principal residences, rental properties and properties under development from the tax base. Costs are for the 2020 calendar year. In calculating the cost of the expenditure no credits have been applied that an owner may have been entitled to receive had they been assessed tax. The calculations are based on actual exemptions claimed, not what an owner would have otherwise been entitled to claim had they not chosen this particular exemption and are based on a 50 per cent ownership share which may not reflect the true mixture of owner types who jointly own property. All measures were introduced when the tax was introduced in 2018.

³ This is the value of the exemptions without applying any credits. Ownership percentage is assumed to be split into equal parts based on the number of owners on title (i.e., if a property has 3 owners, each owner is assumed to have 1/3 ownership). The tax rate of either 0.5 per cent or 2 per cent based on their ownership type is then applied to their ownership percentage.

Table A1.4 Consumption Taxes – Tax Expenditures

	2020/21 Estimated Cost ¹ (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
Fuel Taxes ²			
Exemption for alternative fuels ³	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exempts hydrogen, natural gas, and gasoline and diesel that contains at least 85 per cent methanol from motor fuel tax. Introduced in 1982. 			
Exemption for international flights (jet fuel)	12	9	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exempts fuel purchased by interjurisdictional airlines from motor fuel tax. Introduced in 2012. 			
Exemptions for farmers ²	11	10	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exempts coloured gasoline and coloured diesel purchased by qualifying farmers from motor fuel and carbon tax. Introduced in 2008 for motor fuel tax and 2014 for carbon tax. 			
Provincial Sales Tax ⁴			
Rebate for select machinery and equipment	4	70	126
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides, as part of B.C.'s Economic Recovery Plan, a temporary rebate to encourage business investment. 			
Exemptions for the following:			
Food for human consumption ⁵	1,584	1,563	1,688
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of basic necessities. 			
Production machinery and equipment	175	186	186
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to help reduce the cost of certain machinery and equipment for businesses in the manufacturing, oil and gas, mining and logging industries. 			
Residential energy (e.g., electricity, natural gas, fuel oil)	276	278	289
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of residential energy. 			
Non-residential electricity	198	198	197
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to help businesses become more competitive and support increased investment, growth and job creation. Phased in starting January 1, 2018 and fully implemented on April 1, 2019. 			
Prescription and non-prescription drugs, vitamins and certain other health care products	259	293	302
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of certain drugs, vitamins and health care products. 			
Children's clothing and footwear	37	37	37
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of clothing and footwear for children under 15. 			
Clothing patterns, fabrics and notions	8	8	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of patterns, yarns, natural fibres, threads and fabric that are commonly used in making or repairing clothing. 			
Specified school supplies	46	38	39
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of school supplies. 			
Books, magazines and newspapers	46	45	46
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of reading material. 			
Basic land-line telephone and cable service	54	54	54
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of basic land-line telephone and basic cable television service. 			
"1-800" and equivalent telephone services	4	4	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of offering toll-free telephone services. 			
Specified safety equipment	42	42	42
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of specified work-related and general-use protective gear and safety equipment. 			

¹ Exemptions are largely point-of-sale exemptions - they can only be estimated unlike expenditures provided through the income or property tax systems.

² Estimate is for both motor fuel tax and carbon tax.

³ Exemption for natural gas began in 1982. The exemption was expanded to include gasoline and diesel with at least 85 per cent methanol in 1992, hydrogen used in a fuel cell vehicle in 2009, and hydrogen used in an internal combustion engine vehicle in 2022.

⁴ Estimates are based on internal data, publicly-available industry data and Statistics Canada data. All exemptions for provincial sales tax existed prior to the implementation of the *Provincial Sales Tax Act* in 2013 except for the exemption for non-residential electricity, which was introduced in 2018, and the expansion of the exemption for bicycles and tricycles in 2021 to include electric bicycles and tricycles.

⁵ Effective April 1, 2021, carbonated sodas and certain other beverages became subject to provincial sales tax.



Table A1.4 Consumption Taxes – Tax Expenditures (continued)

	2020/21 Estimated Cost ¹ (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
Provincial Sales Tax ²			
Exemptions for the following:			
Labour to repair major household appliances, clothing and footwear	15	15	16
• Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of repairing certain essentials.			
Livestock for human consumption and feed, seed and fertilizer	67	67	68
• Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of animals that are part of the food system.			
Specified energy conservation equipment	22	22	23
• Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of certain energy conservation equipment.			
Bicycles and adult-sized tricycles	15	20	22
• Provides exemptions to reduce the cost of non-motorized bicycles, adult-sized tricycles and parts and services. Expanded on April 21, 2021 to include electric bicycles and adult-sized tricycles, conversion kits and parts and services.			
Used zero-emission vehicles	-	2	21
• Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of used zero-emission vehicles. Introduced on February 23, 2022. Sunset date of February 22, 2027.			
Heat pumps	-	-	8
• Provides an exemption to reduce the cost of heat pumps. Introduced on April 1, 2022.			

¹ Exemptions are largely point-of-sale exemptions - they can only be estimated unlike expenditures provided through the income or property tax systems.

² Estimates are based on internal data, publicly-available industry data and Statistics Canada data. All exemptions for provincial sales tax existed prior to the implementation of the *Provincial Sales Tax Act* in 2013 unless otherwise noted.

Table A1.5 Employer Health Tax – Tax Expenditures

	2020/21 Actual Cost (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
Increased Employment Incentive	-	33	-
• Provides a refundable tax credit to employers who increase their payroll for low- to middle-income workers between the third and fourth quarters of 2020.			
• Introduced for the quarter ended December 31, 2020 as part of B.C.'s Economic Recovery Plan.			
Relief for small businesses, charities and non-profits	464	458	486
• Provides a tax exemption for employers with B.C. remuneration of \$500,000 or less, and a lower effective tax rate for employers with B.C. remuneration up to \$1.5 million.			
• Charities and not-for-profit employers are exempt on their first \$1.5 million of B.C. remuneration at a qualifying location, and receive a lower effective tax rate on B.C. remuneration of up to \$4.5 million at a qualifying location.			
• Introduced in 2019 with the employer health tax.			

Table A1.6 Insurance Premium Tax – Tax Expenditures

	2020/21 Actual Cost (\$ millions)	2021/22 Estimated Cost (\$ millions)	2022/23 Planned Cost (\$ millions)
Marine Insurance Exemption	3	3	3
• Provides an exemption for marine insurance other than pleasure craft insurance.			
• Introduced in 1957.			

Table A2 Interprovincial Comparisons of Tax Rates – 2022
(Rates known and in effect as of February 1, 2022)

Tax	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador
Corporate income tax (per cent of taxable income)										
General rate	12	8	12	12	11.5	11.5	14	14	16	15
Manufacturing rate ¹	12	8	10	12	10	11.5	14	14	16	15
Small business rate	2	2	0	0	3.2	3.2	2.5	2.5	2	3
Small business threshold (\$000s)	500	500	600	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Corporation capital tax (per cent)										
Financial ²	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	0.7/4	6	<i>Nil</i>	1.25	4/5	4	5	6
Payroll tax (per cent) ³	1.95	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	2.15	1.95	4.26	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	2
Insurance premium tax (per cent) ⁴	2/7	3/4	3/4	2/4	2/3.5	9	2/3	3/4	3.75/4	5
Fuel tax (cents per litre) ⁵										
Gasoline	24.46	21.84	23.84	22.84	33.14	32.1	31.84	26.76	26.72	36.47
Diesel	26.71	23.73	25.73	24.73	34.95	32.99	38.69	26.77	34.75	40.99
Sales tax (per cent) ⁶										
General rate	7	<i>Nil</i>	6	7	8	9.975	10	10	10	10
Tobacco tax (\$ per carton of 200 cigarettes) ⁷	65	55	62.38	70.19	46.76	29.80	64.71	73.51	69.11	80.06

¹ In British Columbia (and some other provinces), the general rate applies to income from manufacturing and processing.

² Tax rates differ for smaller financial corporations in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Quebec's tax only applies to life insurance companies. In New Brunswick, taxable capital of financial institutions in excess of \$10 million are subject to a 4 per cent tax, while banks are subject to the rate of 5 per cent. Financial institutions in Prince Edward Island pay tax on their paid-up capital exceeding \$2 million.

³ Provinces with payroll taxes provide payroll tax relief for small businesses. Quebec also levies a compensation tax of up to 4.14 per cent on salaries and wages paid by financial institutions.

⁴ Lower rates apply to premiums for life, sickness and accident insurance; higher rates apply to premiums for property insurance including automobile insurance. In British Columbia, the highest rate applies to unlicensed insurance. In Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador, sales taxes also apply to certain insurance premiums except, generally, those related to individual life and health.

⁵ Tax rates are for regular fuel used on highways and include all provincial taxes payable by consumers at the pump. The British Columbia rates include 6.75 cents per litre dedicated to the BC Transportation Financing Authority and the carbon tax rates of 9.96 cents per litre for gasoline and 11.71 cents per litre for diesel. The British Columbia rates do not include regional taxes that increase the gasoline and diesel rates by 12.5 cents per litre in the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority service region and by 5.5 cents per litre in the Capital Regional District. The rates for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador include provincial sales tax based on average pump prices as of December 2021. The rates for Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario include federal carbon pricing backstop rates of 8.84 cents per litre for gasoline and 10.73 cents per litre for diesel. The rates for New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador include provincial carbon tax rates of 8.84 cents per litre for gasoline and 10.73 cents per litre for diesel. The rates for Prince Edward Island include a provincial carbon tax rate of 6.63 cents per litre for gasoline and 8.05 cents per litre for diesel. Quebec's rates do not include increased or reduced regional tax rates, such as an additional 3 cents per litre on gasoline in the Montreal area.

⁶ Tax rates shown are statutory rates. Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador have harmonized their sales taxes with the federal GST. Alberta imposes a 4 per cent tax on short-term rental accommodation.

⁷ Includes estimated provincial sales tax in all provinces except British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec. British Columbia will apply provincial sales tax to tobacco effective July 1, 2022.

Table A3 Comparison of Provincial and Federal Taxes by Province – 2022

Tax	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador
Two Income Family of Four - \$120,000										
	(\$)									
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	5,078	6,750	6,909	9,324	6,567	10,927	9,592	11,283	10,550	9,624
Net Child Benefits.....	(113)	0	0	--	0	(2,861)	0	0	--	(425)
2. Property Tax - Gross.....	6,844	4,033	4,323	4,519	7,790	5,394	4,998	5,164	5,435	2,339
- Net.....	6,274	4,033	4,323	4,519	7,790	5,394	4,998	5,164	5,435	2,339
3. Sales Tax.....	1,920	0	1,692	1,828	2,738	3,348	3,355	3,174	3,203	3,374
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	389	(319)	(347)	(120)	66	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	13,766	10,658	12,802	15,761	17,381	17,096	18,266	19,853	19,472	15,288
7. Federal Income Tax.....	13,105	13,105	13,105	13,105	13,105	13,074	13,105	13,105	13,105	13,105
8. Net Federal GST.....	1,785	1,748	1,745	1,695	1,752	1,774	1,689	1,654	1,669	1,697
9. Total Tax.....	28,657	25,511	27,652	30,561	32,238	31,944	33,060	34,613	34,247	30,090
Two Income Family of Four - \$90,000										
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	2,950	4,016	3,474	5,513	2,991	6,211	5,492	6,708	6,406	5,608
Net Child Benefits.....	(1,247)	0	0	--	0	(3,995)	0	0	--	(425)
2. Property Tax - Gross.....	3,236	2,234	2,462	3,162	4,523	4,108	2,911	4,232	3,166	2,259
- Net.....	2,666	2,234	2,462	3,162	4,523	4,108	2,911	4,232	3,166	2,259
3. Sales Tax.....	1,606	0	1,413	1,525	2,292	2,861	2,810	2,666	2,678	2,825
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	342	(380)	(410)	(183)	(3)	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	6,534	6,065	7,164	10,228	10,023	9,472	11,534	13,839	12,535	10,643
7. Federal Income Tax.....	7,633	7,633	7,633	7,633	7,633	7,617	7,633	7,633	7,633	7,633
8. Net Federal GST.....	1,493	1,445	1,456	1,414	1,466	1,516	1,415	1,389	1,396	1,421
9. Total Tax.....	15,659	15,143	16,253	19,275	19,123	18,606	20,581	22,862	21,563	19,696
Single Parent with One Child - \$60,000										
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	1,996	1,445	1,489	3,182	2,527	3,018	3,539	4,811	4,276	4,110
Net Child Benefits.....	(700)	(38)	0	--	0	(2,442)	0	0	--	(206)
2. Property Tax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Sales Tax.....	1,180	0	1,060	1,141	1,674	2,135	1,844	1,965	1,916	2,073
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	215	(278)	(302)	(108)	59	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	2,909	1,324	2,472	4,425	4,480	2,999	5,703	7,008	6,476	6,351
7. Federal Income Tax.....	4,341	4,341	4,341	4,341	4,341	4,330	4,341	4,341	4,341	4,341
8. Net Federal GST.....	1,097	1,094	1,093	1,058	1,071	1,131	1,055	1,024	1,036	1,043
9. Total Tax.....	8,346	6,759	7,905	9,823	9,892	8,460	11,099	12,373	11,853	11,735
Unattached Individual - \$30,000										
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	562	778	760	1,107	(298)	99	1,161	1,160	1,577	1,509
2. Property Tax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Sales Tax.....	474	0	428	470	575	863	562	823	702	405
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	(22)	(251)	(275)	(176)	(93)	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	1,232	722	1,138	1,611	404	1,250	2,044	2,216	2,564	2,289
7. Federal Income Tax.....	1,971	1,971	1,971	1,971	1,971	1,966	1,971	1,971	1,971	1,971
8. Net Federal GST.....	(22)	(26)	(26)	(32)	(5)	(7)	(28)	(33)	(38)	(31)
9. Total Tax.....	3,181	2,667	3,083	3,550	2,370	3,209	3,987	4,154	4,497	4,229



Table A3 Comparison of Provincial and Federal Taxes by Province – 2022

Tax	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador
Unattached Individual - \$80,000										
	(\$)									
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	4,035	5,386	6,553	7,048	5,156	8,763	7,619	8,976	8,313	7,726
2. Property Tax - Gross.....	2,520	1,930	1,870	2,589	3,926	2,952	4,097	4,232	4,455	1,918
- Net.....	1,950	1,930	1,870	2,589	3,926	2,952	4,097	4,232	4,455	1,918
3. Sales Tax.....	1,038	0	899	993	1,472	1,731	1,784	1,679	1,699	1,781
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	305	(18)	(26)	69	194	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	7,546	7,493	9,522	10,910	10,969	13,733	13,820	15,119	14,751	11,800
7. Federal Income Tax.....	10,369	10,369	10,369	10,369	10,369	10,345	10,369	10,369	10,369	10,369
8. Net Federal GST.....	960	936	916	907	940	912	897	873	885	895
9. Total Tax.....	18,876	18,799	20,807	22,186	22,279	24,990	25,087	26,362	26,006	23,065
Senior Couple with Equal Pension Incomes - \$40,000										
1. Provincial Income Tax.....	0	0	(464)	(277)	(1,618)	(1,051)	0	366	849	5
2. Property Tax - Gross.....	3,236	2,234	2,462	3,162	4,523	4,108	2,911	4,232	3,166	2,259
- Net.....	2,391	2,234	2,462	3,162	4,523	4,108	2,911	4,232	3,166	2,259
3. Sales Tax.....	856	0	783	851	1,005	1,476	1,100	1,447	1,256	1,178
4. Fuel Tax.....	218	195	225	210	221	288	163	233	127	218
5. Net Carbon Tax.....	21	(115)	(131)	30	191	--	157	--	157	157
6. Total Provincial Tax.....	3,486	2,314	2,875	3,975	4,321	4,821	4,332	6,278	5,555	3,818
7. Federal Income Tax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Net Federal GST.....	267	271	275	257	262	254	267	223	239	279
9. Total Tax.....	3,753	2,584	3,150	4,233	4,583	5,075	4,599	6,500	5,794	4,097

Personal Income Tax

- Income tax is based on basic personal credits, applicable credits and typical major deductions at each income level. Quebec residents pay federal income tax less an abatement of 16.5 per cent of basic federal tax. This abatement has been used to reduce Quebec provincial tax rather than federal tax, for comparative purposes.

- The amounts noted for each family is their family total income. Total income is used for these tables as it provides a more accurate view of the taxes paid by a family at a particular level of earnings. The two income family of four with \$120,000 income is assumed to have one spouse earning \$80,000 and the other \$40,000, the family with \$90,000 income is assumed to have one spouse earning \$50,000 and the other \$40,000 and each spouse in the senior couple is assumed to receive \$20,000. The senior couple is assumed to be between the ages of 65 and 74 and to have pension income and the remaining representative families are assumed to have employment income.

Net Child Benefits

- Net child benefits are provincial measures affecting payments to families with children. Provincial child benefit measures are available in British Columbia (BC Child Opportunity Benefit), Alberta (Alberta Child and Family Benefit), Ontario (Child Benefit), Quebec (Child Assistance Payments), New Brunswick (Child Tax Benefit), Nova Scotia (Child Benefit) and Newfoundland and Labrador (Child Benefit).

- The single parent is assumed to have one child aged 5. The family earning \$90,000 income is assumed to have two children aged 5 and 7. The family earning \$120,000 income is assumed to have two children aged 15 and 17.

Property Tax

- Property taxes are based on a representative two storey home, townhouse or condominium in a major city in each respective province.
- It is assumed that the single parent and the individual at \$30,000 income rent accommodation, the family at \$90,000 income and senior couple own townhouses, the family at \$120,000 income owns a single family detached home, and the individual at \$80,000 income owns a condominium in a major city for each province. Net local and provincial property taxes are estimated as taxes owing after credits provided through the property tax system are subtracted.

Sales Tax

- Estimates are based on expenditure patterns from the Survey of Household Spending. In estimating individual and family taxable consumption, disposable income is reduced by estimated federal income taxes and provincial income taxes. In addition, the single individual with \$80,000 income, family with \$90,000 income and family with \$120,000 income are assumed to have savings equal to 5 per cent of their income. For each family, disposable income is distributed among expenditures using the consumption pattern of a typical family with the relevant characteristics as estimated using family expenditure data, and the relevant sales tax component is extracted. Sales tax includes: provincial retail sales taxes in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba; Quebec's value added tax; the provincial component of the HST in Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador; and Alberta's Tourism Levy. Sales tax estimates have been reduced by sales tax credits where applicable.

Fuel and Carbon Taxes

- Fuel tax is based on annual consumption: all families are assumed to consume 1,500 litres of gasoline.
- Net carbon tax is estimated as carbon tax liabilities minus rebates such as B.C.'s climate action tax credit, where applicable. Carbon tax liabilities are based on direct fuel charges on gasoline, natural gas and home heating fuel where such charges apply (fuel charges do not apply to home heating fuel in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador). Estimated carbon tax liabilities are based on natural gas and home heating fuel consumption amounts from household energy consumption data produced by Statistics Canada and Natural Resources Canada. Carbon tax liabilities do not include the effect of cap-and-trade or output-based pricing systems.
- The federal government requires provinces to implement a price on carbon of at least \$50/tonne starting April 2022. Provinces that do not have a carbon pricing program will have the federal carbon pricing backstop rates applied to the price of the fuel. As at December 31, 2021, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are subject to the federal carbon pricing on fuel purchases. Families in these provinces receive the federal climate action incentive to offset the cost of the carbon pricing. The amount of the climate action incentive for 2022/23 has been estimated using the amount of the climate action incentive for 2021/22.

Effective Tax Rates

- British Columbia taxes have been calculated using rates in effect for 2022. Taxes for other provinces were calculated using rates that were announced prior to January 31, 2022, and that come into effect during 2022.

Table A4 Interprovincial Comparisons of Provincial Personal Income Taxes Payable¹ – 2022
(Rates known as of February 1, 2022)

Taxable income	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec ²	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Newfoundland and Labrador
	Annual provincial taxes payable ³ (\$)									
\$10,000.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$20,000.....	0	0	223	870	0	0	99	593	440	0
\$30,000.....	637	865	1,197	1,901	302	1,249	1,269	1,509	1,662	1,584
\$40,000.....	1,315	1,792	2,171	3,005	1,770	2,553	2,438	2,995	2,888	2,425
\$50,000.....	1,958	2,719	3,202	4,200	2,529	4,144	3,618	4,480	4,201	3,807
\$60,000.....	2,689	3,646	4,374	5,395	3,404	5,825	5,028	5,972	5,514	5,189
\$70,000.....	3,444	4,618	5,593	6,639	4,303	7,487	6,481	7,667	7,030	6,612
\$80,000.....	4,214	5,618	6,843	8,152	5,368	9,148	7,963	9,363	8,700	8,079
\$100,000.....	6,140	7,618	9,343	11,632	7,734	12,703	11,093	12,751	12,040	11,239
\$125,000.....	9,320	10,118	12,468	15,982	12,087	17,826	15,223	17,126	16,587	15,189
\$150,000.....	12,995	12,984	15,911	20,332	16,439	23,191	19,400	21,501	21,179	19,285
	Provincial personal income taxes as a per cent of taxable income (%)									
\$10,000.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
\$20,000.....	0.0	0.0	1.1	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	3.0	2.2	0.0
\$30,000.....	2.1	2.9	4.0	6.3	1.0	4.2	4.2	5.0	5.5	5.3
\$40,000.....	3.3	4.5	5.4	7.5	4.4	6.4	6.1	7.5	7.2	6.1
\$50,000.....	3.9	5.4	6.4	8.4	5.1	8.3	7.2	9.0	8.4	7.6
\$60,000.....	4.5	6.1	7.3	9.0	5.7	9.7	8.4	10.0	9.2	8.6
\$70,000.....	4.9	6.6	8.0	9.5	6.1	10.7	9.3	11.0	10.0	9.4
\$80,000.....	5.3	7.0	8.6	10.2	6.7	11.4	10.0	11.7	10.9	10.1
\$100,000.....	6.1	7.6	9.3	11.6	7.7	12.7	11.1	12.8	12.0	11.2
\$125,000.....	7.5	8.1	10.0	12.8	9.7	14.3	12.2	13.7	13.3	12.2
\$150,000.....	8.7	8.7	10.6	13.6	11.0	15.5	12.9	14.3	14.1	12.9

¹ Calculated for a single individual with wage income and claiming credits for Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan contributions, Employment Insurance premiums, Quebec Parental Insurance Plan premiums, and the basic personal amount.

² Quebec residents pay federal tax less an abatement of 16.5 per cent of federal tax. In the table, the Quebec abatement has been used to reduce Quebec provincial personal income tax for comparative purposes.

³ Includes provincial low income reductions, surtaxes payable in Ontario and Prince Edward Island, and the Ontario Health Premium tax. Excludes credits for sales and property tax credits.

Table A4.1 Net Provincial Taxes Since Budget 2016

Tax	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
\$30,000 of Family Net Income							
	(\$)						
1. MSP Premiums	0	0	0	0	--	--	--
2. Provincial Income Tax	0	0	0	0	(1,000)	0	0
3. Early Childhood Tax Benefit	(660)	(660)	(660)	(660)	(495)	--	--
4. BC Child Opportunity Benefit	--	--	--	--	(600)	(2,406)	(2,422)
5. Carbon Tax	(126)	(126)	(129)	(150)	(645)	(193)	(187)
6. Sales Tax	818	830	839	845	940	1,022	1,022
7. Fuel Tax	145	145	145	145	145	145	145
8. Net Provincial Tax	177	189	195	180	(1,655)	(1,432)	(1,442)
\$60,000 of Family Net Income							
1. MSP Premiums	1,800	1,800	900	900	--	--	--
2. Provincial Income Tax	1,714	1,663	1,595	1,505	416	1,361	1,274
3. Early Childhood Tax Benefit	(660)	(660)	(660)	(660)	(495)	--	--
4. BC Child Opportunity Benefit	--	--	--	--	(345)	(1,380)	(1,380)
5. Carbon Tax	208	208	233	261	(224)	217	214
6. Sales Tax	958	969	1,003	1,025	1,164	1,210	1,213
7. Fuel Tax	218	218	218	218	218	218	218
8. Net Provincial Tax	4,238	4,198	3,289	3,249	734	1,626	1,539
\$80,000 of Family Net Income							
1. MSP Premiums	1,800	1,800	900	900	--	--	--
2. Provincial Income Tax	2,869	2,824	2,761	2,713	1,682	2,662	2,630
3. Early Childhood Tax Benefit	(660)	(660)	(660)	(660)	(495)	--	--
4. BC Child Opportunity Benefit	--	--	--	--	(345)	(1,380)	(1,380)
5. Carbon Tax	236	236	265	305	(59)	348	386
6. Sales Tax	1,174	1,184	1,215	1,245	1,357	1,491	1,488
7. Fuel Tax	218	218	218	218	218	218	218
8. Net Provincial Tax	5,637	5,602	4,699	4,721	2,358	3,339	3,342
\$100,000 of Family Net Income							
1. MSP Premiums	1,800	1,800	900	900	--	--	--
2. Provincial Income Tax	4,340	4,298	4,234	4,148	3,062	4,004	3,916
3. Early Childhood Tax Benefit	(660)	(660)	(660)	(660)	(495)	--	--
4. BC Child Opportunity Benefit	--	--	--	--	(145)	(598)	(649)
5. Carbon Tax	269	269	303	348	86	397	440
6. Sales Tax	1,434	1,447	1,480	1,527	1,633	1,659	1,661
7. Fuel Tax	290	290	290	290	290	290	290
8. Net Provincial Tax	7,473	7,444	6,547	6,553	4,431	5,752	5,658

Personal Income Tax

- For each family, the amount noted is the family net income. Net income forms the basis of many benefits provided through the tax system and, therefore, will provide a more accurate illustration of benefits received and premiums paid by a family at their respective family net income level. Income tax is calculated based on applicable tax rates and credits. All families are assumed to have each spouse earning an equal amount of employment income.
- Families are assumed to have two children aged 5 and 12.

Net Child Benefits

- Net child benefits are provincial measures affecting payments to families with children. The BC early childhood tax benefit was in effect until September 2020. The BC Child Opportunity Benefit was effective October 1, 2020.

Sales, Fuel and Carbon Tax Estimates

- Disposable income is estimated based on the total amounts received in 2016 and then adjusted for inflation. In estimating taxable consumption, disposable income is reduced by 20 per cent to reflect rent. Cost of groceries and utilities are estimated based on the Survey of Household Spending and subtracted, thereafter.
- For each family, income after rent, groceries and utilities is distributed among the remaining expenditures using the consumption pattern of a typical family with two children estimated based on expenditure patterns from the Survey of Household Spending. The relevant sales tax component is extracted based on the estimates.
- Fuel tax is based on annual consumption: 1,000 litres of fuel for the family at \$30,000; 1,500 litres of fuel for the family at \$60,000 and at \$80,000; and 2,000 of fuel for the family at \$100,000.
- Net carbon tax is estimated using the same methodology as Table A3.

Health Care Premiums

- B.C. Medical Services Plan premiums were eliminated January 1, 2020. This table assumes that the full Medical Services Plan premium was paid by the family and not paid by the employer.

COVID-19 Relief in 2020

- As part of COVID-19 relief, a one-time enhancement to the climate action tax credit was paid with the July 2020 payment. The amount of the benefit is included in net carbon taxes.
- The BC Recovery Benefit provided families up to \$1,000 per family reduced by family net income over \$125,000. Payments for the benefit commenced in December 2020. The amount of the benefit is net against provincial income taxes for 2020.

Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities	
Personal income tax *	13,680	12,848	13,360	13,955		
<u>Current calendar year assumptions</u>						
Household income growth	4.9%	3.6%	3.9%	3.7%	+/- 1 percentage point change in 2022 B.C. household income growth equals +/- \$100 to \$120 million	
Compensation of employees growth	10.7%	6.0%	4.1%	3.9%		
Tax base growth	3.1%	2.2%	2.9%	3.5%		
Average tax yield	5.92%	5.98%	6.03%	6.09%		
Current-year tax	12,056	12,439	12,921	13,500		
Prior year's tax assessments	460	470	480	490		
Unapplied taxes	100	100	100	100		
B.C. Tax Reduction	(195)	(180)	(184)	(188)		
Non-refundable B.C. tax credits	(110)	(110)	(110)	(110)		
Policy neutral elasticity **	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.2		
<u>Fiscal year assumptions</u>					+/- 0.5 change in 2022 B.C. policy neutral elasticity equals +/- \$210 to \$230 million	
Prior-year adjustment	1,260					
<u>2020 Tax-year</u>	2020 Assumptions					
Household income growth	7.0%				+/- 1 percentage point change in 2021 B.C. household or taxable income growth equals +/- \$140 to \$160 million one-time effect (prior-year adjustment) and could result in an additional +/- \$110 to \$130 million base change in 2022/23	
Tax base growth	5.9%					
Average 2020 tax yield	5.89%					
2020 tax	11,635					
2019 & prior year's tax assessments	521					
Unapplied taxes	100					
B.C. Tax Reduction	(202)					
Non-refundable B.C. tax credits	(108)					
Policy neutral elasticity **	1.0					
* Reflects information as at January 20, 2022						
** Per cent growth in current year tax revenue (excluding policy measures) relative to per cent growth in household income (calendar year).						
Corporate income tax *	5,064	5,501	5,827	6,455		
<u>Components of revenue (fiscal year)</u>						
Installments – subject to general rate	5,052	5,318	5,764	6,284		
Installments – subject to small business rate	312	322	341	362		
Non-refundable B.C. tax credits	(129)	(132)	(137)	(142)		
Advance installments	5,235	5,508	5,968	6,504		
Prior-year settlement payment	(171)	(7)	(141)	(49)		
<u>Current calendar year assumptions</u>						
National tax base (\$ billions)	390.6	406.0	435.0	495.7		+/- 1% change in the 2022 national tax base equals
B.C. installment share of national tax base	14.2%	14.4%	14.3%	14.1%		+/- \$50 to \$60 million
Effective percentage tax rates (% general/small business)	12.0 / 2.0	12.0 / 2.0	12.0 / 2.0	12.0 / 2.0		
Share of the B.C. tax base subject to the small business rate	27.1%	26.7%	26.5%	25.7%		+/- 1 percentage point change in the 2022 small business share equals
B.C. tax base growth (post federal measures)	8.9%	1.4%	5.3%	9.7%	+/- \$50 to \$70 million	
B.C. net operating surplus growth	13.6%	0.8%	4.3%	4.0%		
<u>2020 Tax-year</u>	2020 Assumptions					
B.C. tax base growth (post federal measures)	8.3%				+/- 1% change in the 2021 B.C. tax base equals +/- \$40 to \$60 million one-time effect (prior-year adjustment) and could result in an additional installments payments of +/- \$60 to \$80 million in 2022/23	
Share of the B.C. tax base subject to small business rate	27.5%					
B.C. net operating surplus growth	19.1%					
Gross 2020 tax	4,947					
Prior-year settlement payment	(171)					
Prior years losses/gains (included in above)	(62)					
Non-refundable B.C. tax credits	(120)					
* Reflects information as at January 20, 2022						

Cash received from the federal government is used as the basis for estimating revenue. Due to lags in the federal collection and installment systems, changes to the B.C. net operating surplus and tax base forecasts affect revenue in the succeeding year. The 2022/23 installments from the federal government reflects two-third of payments related to the 2022 tax year (paid during Apr-July 2022 and adjusted in Sept and Dec) and one-third of 2023 payments. Installments for the 2022 (2023) tax year are based on B.C.'s share of the national tax base for the 2021 (2022) tax year and a forecast of the 2022 (2023) national tax base. B.C.'s share of the 2020 national tax base was 14.1%, based on tax assessments as of December 31, 2021. Cash adjustments for any under/over payments from the federal government in respect of 2021 will be received/paid on March 31, 2023.



Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue (continued)

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Employer health tax	2,130	2,257	2,349	2,441	
Compensation of employees growth	10.7%	6.0%	4.1%	3.9%	+/- 1 percentage point change in the 2022 compensation of employees growth equals up to +/- \$22 million
Provincial sales tax	8,441	9,009	9,546	9,928	
Provincial sales tax base growth (fiscal year)	11.6%	4.7%	4.3%	4.2%	+/- 1 percentage point change in the 2022 consumer expenditure growth equals up to +/- \$20 to \$30 million
<u>Calendar Year nominal expenditure</u>					
Consumer expenditures on durable goods	17.9%	3.4%	1.3%	2.1%	
Consumer expenditures on goods and services	7.7%	8.1%	6.6%	5.2%	
Business investment	16.9%	3.9%	6.2%	4.8%	
Other	16.1%	3.3%	2.2%	3.8%	
<u>Components of Provincial sales tax revenue</u>					+/- 1 percentage point change in the 2022 business investment growth equals up to +/- \$10 to \$20 million
Consolidated Revenue Fund	8,436	9,002	9,539	9,921	
BC Transportation Financing Authority	5	7	7	7	
Fuel and carbon taxes	3,087	3,362	3,407	3,452	
<u>Calendar Year</u>					
Real GDP	5.0%	4.0%	2.5%	2.1%	
Gasoline volumes	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Diesel volumes	8.0%	3.0%	2.0%	2.0%	
Natural gas volumes	4.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	
<u>Carbon tax rates (April 1)</u>					
Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (\$/tonne)	45	50	50	50	
Natural gas (cents/gigajoule)	223.47¢	248.30¢	248.30¢	248.30¢	
Gasoline (cents/litre)	9.96¢	11.05¢	11.05¢	11.05¢	
Light fuel oil (cents/litre)	11.71¢	13.01¢	13.01¢	13.01¢	
<u>Components of revenue *</u>					
Consolidated Revenue Fund	559	566	571	577	
BC Transit	18	18	18	18	
BC Transportation Financing Authority	462	467	470	473	
Fuel tax revenue	1,039	1,051	1,059	1,068	
Carbon tax revenue	2,048	2,311	2,348	2,384	
Property taxes	3,020	3,173	3,354	3,514	
<u>Calendar Year</u>					
Consumer Price Index	2.8%	2.9%	2.2%	2.0%	+/- 1 percentage point change in 2022 new construction & inflation growth equals up to +/- \$30 million in residential property taxation revenue
Housing starts (units)	47,607	38,022	36,001	35,032	
Home owner grants (fiscal year)	874	892	909	928	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
Residential (net of home owner grants)	1,188	1,261	1,337	1,404	
Speculation and vacancy	80	80	80	80	
Non-residential	1,367	1,448	1,530	1,617	+/- 1% change in 2022 total business property assessment value equals up to +/- \$20 million in non-residential property taxation revenue
Rural area	131	134	140	146	
Police	36	37	38	39	
BC Assessment Authority	127	103	103	104	
BC Transit	91	110	126	124	
Other taxes	4,630	3,920	3,836	3,901	
<u>Calendar Year</u>					
Population	1.1%	1.9%	1.6%	1.5%	
Residential sales value	57.7%	-19.6%	-5.1%	2.2%	+/- 1% change to 2022 residential sales value equals +/- \$30 million in property transfer revenue, depending on property values
Real GDP	5.0%	4.0%	2.5%	2.1%	
Nominal GDP	12.4%	5.8%	4.1%	4.0%	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
Property transfer	3,250	2,500	2,406	2,461	
Additional Property Transfer Tax (included in above)	105	104	100	101	
Tobacco	740	760	760	760	
Insurance premium	640	660	670	680	



Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue (continued)

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Energy, sales of Crown land tenures, metals, minerals and other *	1,771	1,752	1,390	1,179	
Natural gas price					+/- \$0.25 change in the natural gas price equals +/- \$130 to \$150 million, including impacts on production volumes and royalty program credits, but excluding any changes from natural gas liquids revenue (e.g. butane, pentanes)
Plant inlet, \$C/gigajoule	2.38	2.09	1.67	1.55	
Sumas, \$US/MMBtu	3.33	3.09	2.70	2.60	
Natural gas production volumes					Sensitivities can also vary significantly at different price levels
Billions of cubic metres	60.1	62.4	63.7	65.6	+/- 1% change in natural gas volumes equals +/- \$9 million in natural gas royalties
Petajoules	2,496	2,588	2,644	2,723	+/- 1 cent change in the exchange rate equals +/- \$1 million in natural gas royalties
Annual per cent change	8.4%	3.7%	2.2%	3.0%	
Oil price (\$US/bbl at Cushing, OK)	71.20	70.66	67.54	66.05	
Auctioned land base (000 hectares)	6	7	22	20	
Average bid price/hectare (\$)	660	275	275	300	
Cash sales of Crown land tenures	4	2	6	6	
Metallurgical coal price (\$US/tonne, fob Australia)	223	202	163	158	
Copper price (\$US/lb)	4.30	3.95	3.73	3.57	
Annual electricity volumes set by treaty (million mega-watt hours)	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	+/- \$10/bbl change in petroleum price equals +/- \$5 million in petroleum royalties
Mid-Columbia electricity price (\$US/mega-watt hour)	53.20	57.50	57.33	51.03	+/- 14% change in natural gas liquids (equivalent to +/- \$10/bbl oil price) prices equals +/- \$70 to \$80 million in natural gas liquids royalties
Exchange rate (US¢/C\$, calendar year)	79.8	79.9	79.3	78.9	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
Bonus bid auctions:					+/- US\$20 change in the average metallurgical coal price equals +/- \$50 to \$80 million
Deferred revenue	91	81	61	29	
Current-year cash (one-tenth)	-	-	1	1	+/- 10% change in the average Mid-Columbia electricity price equals +/- \$26 million
Fees and rentals	50	49	49	49	
Total bonus bids, fees and rentals	141	130	111	79	
Natural gas royalties after deductions and allowances	749	911	691	580	
Petroleum royalties	32	30	28	26	
Columbia River Treaty electricity sales	237	257	260	230	Based on a recommendation from the Auditor General to be consistent with generally accepted accounting principles, bonus bid revenue recognition reflects ten-year deferral of cash receipts from the sale of Crown land tenures
Oil and Gas Commission fees and levies	63	65	66	67	
Coal, metals and other minerals revenue:					
Coal tenures	5	8	8	8	
Net coal mineral tax	371	212	80	59	
Net metals and other minerals tax	114	61	65	59	
Recoveries relating to revenue sharing payments to First Nations	41	60	63	53	
Miscellaneous mining revenue	18	18	18	18	
Total coal, metals and other minerals revenue	549	359	234	197	
<u>Gross royalties prior to deductions and allowances</u>					
Gross natural gas revenue	1,481	1,268	850	748	
Gross natural gas liquids royalties revenue	756	766	700	694	
<u>Royalty programs and infrastructure credits</u>					
Deep drilling	(1,162)	(778)	(527)	(505)	
Road, pipeline, Clean Growth Infrastructure Royalty and other infrastructure programs	(78)	(85)	(107)	(135)	
Total	(1,240)	(863)	(634)	(640)	
Implicit average natural gas royalty rate	12.5%	16.9%	15.7%	13.7%	

Royalty program (marginal, low productivity and ultra marginal drilling) adjustments reflect reduced royalty rates.
Natural gas royalties incorporate royalty programs and Treasury Board approved infrastructure credits.

* Reflects information as at January 11, 2022.



Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue (continued)

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Forests *	1,847	1,121	887	909	
<u>Prices (calendar year average)</u>					
SPF 2x4 (\$US/thousand board feet)	883	575	475	450	+/- US\$50 change in SPF price equals +/- \$100 to \$150 million
<u>Crown harvest volumes (million cubic metres)</u>					
Interior	35.7	31.4	30.2	31.1	+/- 10% change in Interior harvest volumes equals
Coast	9.3	8.6	8.3	8.4	+/- \$70 to \$80 million
Total	45.0	40.0	38.5	39.5	+/- 10% change in Coastal harvest volumes equals
B.C. Timber Sales (included in above)	9.7	6.5	6.7	7.6	+/- \$20 to \$30 million +/- 1 cent change in exchange rate equals
<u>Stumpage rates (\$Cdn/cubic metre)</u>					
Total stumpage rates	37.14	25.04	20.71	20.75	+/- \$20 to \$30 million in stumpage revenue
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
Timber tenures (net of revenue sharing recoveries)	1,229	715	505	499	The above sensitivities relate to stumpage revenue only.
Recoveries relating to revenue sharing payments to First Nations	46	46	53	49	
B.C. Timber Sales	417	260	258	290	
Logging tax	110	60	30	30	
Other CRF revenue	35	30	30	30	
Recoveries	10	10	11	11	
* Reflects information as at January 7, 2022					
Other natural resource	505	514	521	518	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
Water rental and licences*	433	441	448	445	+/- 5% change in water power production equals
Recoveries	50	50	50	50	+/- \$20 to \$25 million
Angling and hunting permits and licences	9	10	10	10	
Recoveries	13	13	13	13	
* Water rentals for power purposes are indexed to Consumer Price Index.					
Total natural resource recoveries relating to revenue sharing payments to First Nations	88	118	124	109	Revenue sharing from natural gas royalties, mineral tax and forest stumpage revenues.
Other revenue	9,550	9,991	10,210	10,314	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
<u>Fees and licences</u>					
Motor vehicle licences and permits	608	614	625	635	
International student health fees	65	70	70	70	
Other Consolidated Revenue Fund	470	449	473	467	
Summary consolidation eliminations	(15)	(16)	(15)	(15)	
Ministry vote recoveries	187	190	143	96	
Taxpayer-supported Crown corporations	181	192	191	193	
Post-secondary education fees	2,539	2,679	2,779	2,859	
Other healthcare-related fees	421	437	441	441	
School Districts	268	271	275	279	
<u>Investment earnings</u>					
Consolidated Revenue Fund	103	95	96	90	
Fiscal agency loans & sinking funds earnings	855	944	991	1,010	
Summary consolidation eliminations	(41)	(48)	(52)	(68)	
Taxpayer-supported Crown corporations	45	27	27	27	
SUCH sector agencies	407	280	282	285	
<u>Sales of goods and services</u>					
SUCH sector agencies	789	987	1,103	1,176	
BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc	68	227	298	246	
Other taxpayer-supported Crown corporations	185	205	220	228	
Miscellaneous	2,415	2,388	2,263	2,295	



Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue (continued)

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Health and social transfers	8,534	8,363	8,932	9,343	
<u>National Cash Transfers</u>					
Canada Health Transfer (CHT)	43,126	45,208	48,720	51,120	
Annual growth	3.0%	4.8%	7.8%	4.9%	
Canada Social Transfer (CST)	15,474	15,938	16,416	16,909	
B.C.'s share of national population (June 1)	13.622%	13.678%	13.713%	13.735%	+/- 0.1 percentage point change in B.C.'s population share equals +/- \$60 million
<u>B.C. health and social transfers revenue</u>					
CHT	5,875	6,183	6,681	7,021	
CST	2,108	2,180	2,251	2,322	
Prior-year adjustments:					
CHT	7	-	-	-	
CST	2	-	-	-	
Helping Health Care Systems Recover funding	542				
Other federal contributions	2,948	2,977	2,810	2,589	
<u>Components of revenue</u>					
COVID-19 related funding:					
Long term care facilities	134				
Canada's COVID-19 Immunization Plan	135				
Financial Assistance Agreement to Support Closure and Restoration of Oil and Gas					
Sites in British Columbia	53	40	-	-	
Total	322	40	-	-	
Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements	3	28	162	17	
B.C.'s share of the federal cannabis excise tax	68	70	70	70	
Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund	13	2	-	-	
Other Consolidated Revenue Fund	150	222	102	101	
Vote Recoveries:					
Labour Market Development Agreement	339	345	297	299	
Labour Market and Skills Training Program	191	124	124	124	
Home Care	122	82	83	83	
Mental Health	81	82	82	82	
Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund	28	-	-	-	
Child Care *	128	464	464	464	
Child Safety, Family Support, Children in Care and with special needs	93	83	83	83	
Public Transit	88	82	162	105	
Local government services and transfers	191	195	1	1	
Other recoveries	120	155	153	153	
Taxpayer-supported Crown corporations	288	278	298	276	
Post-secondary institutions	603	603	607	610	
Other SUCH sector agencies	120	122	122	121	
* This includes recovery amounts provided under two agreements with the Government of Canada: the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Childcare agreement and the Early Learning and Childcare agreement. Amounts for the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Childcare agreement for 2023/24 and beyond will be adjusted upon completion and acceptance of the Province's Action Plan for those years by the Government of Canada.					
Service delivery agency direct revenue	8,179	8,518	8,868	9,002	
School districts	719	678	680	684	
Post-secondary institutions	4,642	4,856	5,093	5,264	
Health authorities and hospital societies	1,028	1,051	1,050	1,050	
BC Transportation Financing Authority	546	562	560	570	
Other service delivery agencies	1,244	1,371	1,485	1,434	



Table A5 Material Assumptions – Revenue (continued)

Revenue Source and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Commercial Crown corporation net income	5,013	3,764	3,748	3,827	
BC Hydro	681	712	712	712	Sensitivities impacts shown below are before regulatory account transfers
Reservoir water inflows	99.5%	100%	100%	100%	+/-1% in hydro generation equals +/- \$20 million
Mean gas price	5.08	4.07	3.32	3.22	+/-10% equals +/- \$1.0 million
(Sumas, \$US/MMbtu – BC Hydro forecast based on NYMEX forward selling prices)					
Electricity prices	62.77	51.18	47.57	45.43	+/-10% change in electricity/gas trade margins equals +/- \$30 million
(Mid-C, \$US/MWh)					
ICBC	1,904	327	240	280	
Vehicle growth	2.0%	2.0%	1.5%	1.5%	+/-1% equals +/- \$53 million
Current claims cost percentage change	-2.8%	14.5%	4.9%	3.3%	+/-1% equals +/- \$41 million
Unpaid claims balance (\$ billions)	14.0	11.9	10.0	8.5	+/-1% equals +/- \$119 to \$140 million
Investment return	7.0%	3.1%	2.9%	3.0%	+/-1% return equals +/- \$204 to \$214 million
Loss ratio	71.8%	86.7%	86.7%	86.1%	

Table A6 Natural Gas Price Forecasts – 2022/23 to 2024/25

Private sector forecasts (calendar year)						
	2022	2023	2024	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
GLJ Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.80	3.50	3.15	2.37	1.90	1.63
Sproule Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	4.00	3.50	3.25	2.39	1.94	1.75
McDaniel Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.75	3.32	3.12	2.12	1.73	1.60
Deloitte Henry Hub US\$/Mcf (Dec 31, 2021)	4.00	3.55	3.40	2.25	1.88	1.78
GLJ Alberta AECO-C Spot CDN\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.40	3.10	3.15	1.98	1.82	1.87
Sproule Alberta AECO-C Spot CDN\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	3.88	3.36	3.02	2.41	1.96	1.75
McDaniel AECO-C Spot C\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.40	3.16	2.97	2.03	1.82	1.70
Deloitte AECO-C Spot C\$/Mcf (Dec 31, 2021)	3.65	3.25	3.15	2.11	1.82	1.78
GLJ Sumas Spot US\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.70	3.40	3.05	2.85	2.38	2.11
Sproule Sumas Spot CDN\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	4.53	4.02	3.70	2.58	2.15	1.95
GLJ BC Spot Plant Gate CDN\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.06	2.81	2.86	1.92	1.81	1.86
Sproule BC Station 2 CDN\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	3.78	3.25	2.92	2.37	1.93	1.71
McDaniel BC Avg Plant Gate C\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.15	2.91	2.71	2.06	1.84	1.71
Deloitte BC Station 2 C\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	3.15	3.05	3.15	2.28	1.99	1.95
GLJ Midwest Chicago US\$/MMBtu (Jan 1, 2022)	3.35	3.00	3.06	2.82	2.35	2.08
Sproule Alliance Plant Gate CDN\$/MMBtu (Dec 31, 2021)	4.85	4.22	3.91	3.30	2.79	2.60
EIA Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Dec 2, 2021)	4.13					
TD Economics Henry Hub Futures US\$/MMBtu (Dec 2021)	4.29	3.70		3.80		
Scotiabank Group Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Dec 2021)	4.70	3.28		3.96		
BMO Henry Hub US\$/MMBtu (Dec 2021)	4.00					
InSite Petroleum Consultants Ltd BC Spot C\$/Mcf (Dec 31, 2021)	3.55	3.25	3.05	2.16	1.90	1.79
NYMEX Forward Market converted to Plant Inlet CDN\$/GJ (Jan 3, 2022)				2.37	1.79	1.60
Average all minus high/low				2.46	1.97	1.83
Average one forecast per consultant minus high/low				2.53	1.89	1.79
Natural gas royalty price forecast				2.09	1.67	1.55

GLJ: Gilbert Laustsen Jung Petroleum Consultants Ltd US EIA: US Energy Information Administration AECO: Alberta Energy Company
 Deloitte/AJM: Deloitte L.L.P acquired Ashton Jenkins Mann Petroleum Consultants McDaniel: McDaniel & Associates Consultants Ltd

Natural Gas Prices

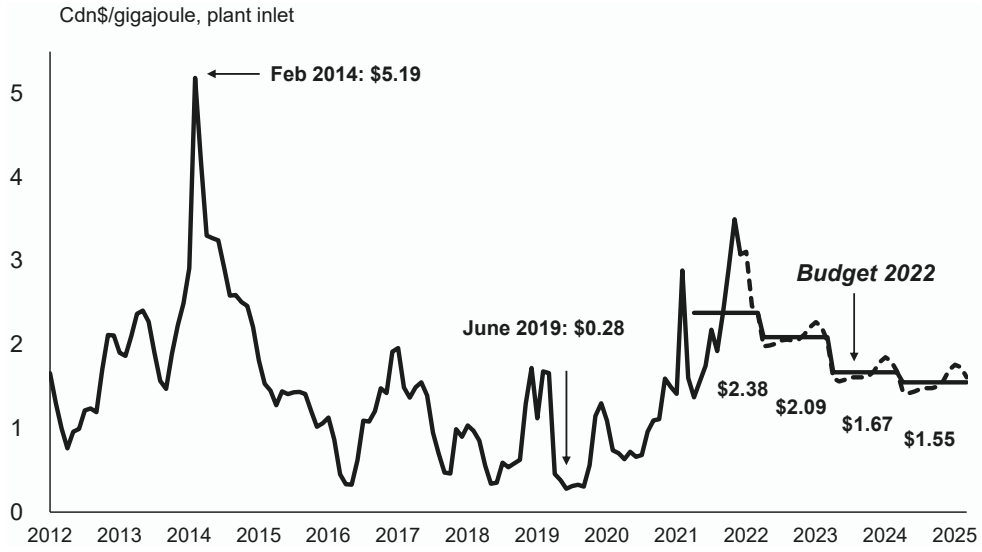


Table A7 Material Assumptions – Expense

Ministry Programs and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Advanced Education and Skills Training	2,577	2,613	2,597	2,598	
Student spaces in public institutions	204,895	205,148	204,989	205,004	Student enrolments may fluctuate due to a number of factors including economic changes and labour market needs.
Attorney General	1,273	1,374	1,402	1,428	
New cases filed/processed	216,000	242,000	242,000	242,000	The number of criminal cases proceeded on by the provincial and federal Crown (including appeals to higher courts in BC), the number of civil and family litigation cases, the number of violation tickets disputed, and the number of municipal bylaw tickets disputed which would go to court for resolution.
<i>Crown Proceeding Act (CPA)</i>	25	25	25	25	The number of new cases and the difference between estimated settlements and actual settlements and in some cases, the impact of potential legislative changes.
Children and Family Development	1,662	1,742	1,756	1,768	
Average children-in-care caseload (#)	5,109	4,852	4,686	4,599	The average number of children-in-care is decreasing as a result of ministry efforts to keep children in family settings where safe and feasible. The average cost per child in care is projected to increase based on the higher cost of contracted residential services and an increasing acuity of need for children in care. A 1% increase in the cost per case or a 1% increase in the average caseload will affect expenditures by \$2.5 million (excluding Delegated Aboriginal Agencies).
Average annual residential cost per child in care (\$)	94,565	105,337	116,832	128,943	
Education and Child Care	7,845	8,217	8,226	8,262	
Public School Enrolment (# of FTEs)	574,434	584,227	592,074	597,870	Updated forecast enrolment figures are based on submissions from school districts of their actual enrolment as at September 30, 2021 for the 2021/22 school year and projected enrolment for February and May 2022 for Distributed Learning and Adults. Projections for 2022/23 and 2023/24 are based on the Ministry of Education's enrolment forecasting model.
School age (K–12)	547,296	558,717	566,459	572,176	
Continuing Education	812	1,062	1,062	1,062	
Distributed Learning (online)	16,975	14,607	14,714	14,793	
Summer	7,279	7,279	7,279	7,279	
Adults	2,071	2,562	2,559	2,559	
Forests	1,453	832	846	865	
BC Timber Sales	234	207	213	232	Targets can be impacted by changes to actual inventory costs incurred. There is a lag of approximately 1.5 years between when inventory costs are incurred and when they are expensed. Volume harvested can also impact targets. For example, if volume harvested is less than projected in any year, then capitalized expenses will also be reduced in that year.
Fire Management	801	194	199	199	Costs are driven by length of season and severity of weather conditions, severity of fires, proportion of interface fires and size of fires.
Health	23,882	25,456	26,243	27,047	
Pharmacare	1,470	1,514	1,539	1,564	A 1% change in PharmaCare utilization or prices affects costs by approximately \$13 million.
Medical Services Plan (MSP)	5,550	6,069	6,306	6,495	A 1% increase in volume of services provided by fee-for-service physicians affects costs by approximately \$35 million.
Regional Services	16,548	17,540	18,053	18,627	



Table A7 Material Assumptions – Expense (continued)

Ministry Programs and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Public Safety and Solicitor General	1,423	1,394	1,007	1,008	
Policing, Victim Services and Corrections	742	807	820	820	Policing, Victim Services and Corrections costs are sensitive to the volume and severity of criminal activity, the number of inmate beds occupied and the number of offenders under community supervision.
<i>Emergency Program Act (EPA)</i>	558	436	36	36	For authorized expenditures under the EPA, including those for further disasters, and the difference between initial estimates for disaster response and recovery costs and final project costs.
Social Development and Poverty Reduction ..	4,360	4,456	4,490	4,511	
Temporary Assistance	48,601	47,300	46,000	45,600	The expected-to-work caseload is sensitive to fluctuations in economic and employment trends. Costs are driven by changes to cost per case and caseload. Cost per case fluctuations result from changes in the needed supports required by clients, as well as caseload composition.
annual average caseload (#)					
Disability Assistance	116,761	121,900	122,700	123,200	The caseload for persons with disabilities is sensitive to the aging of the population and longer life expectancy for individuals with disabilities. Cost per case fluctuations are driven primarily by earnings exemptions which is dependent on the level of income earned by clients.
annual average caseload (#)					
Adult Community Living:					
Developmental Disabilities Programs					
Average caseload (#)	22,450	23,370	24,330	25,300	The adult community living caseload is sensitive to an aging population and to the level of service required. Cost per case fluctuations are driven by the proportion of clients receiving certain types of services at differing costs. For example, residential care services are significantly more costly than day programs.
Average cost per client (\$)	53,000	52,400	51,100	49,300	
Personal Supports Initiative (PSI)					
Average caseload (#)	2,650	2,960	3,290	3,620	
Average cost per client (\$)	15,700	14,700	133,300	12,100	



Table A7 Material Assumptions – Expense (continued)

Ministry Programs and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	2022/23 Sensitivities
Tax Transfers	1,846	2,044	2,142	2,224	
Individuals	983.0	987.0	997.0	997.0	These tax transfers are now expensed as required under generally accepted accounting principles. Changes in 2021 tax transfers will result in one-time effect (prior-year adjustment) and could result in an additional base change in 2022/23. Production services tax credit is the most volatile of all tax transfers and is influenced by several factors including delay in filing returns and assessment of claims, length of projects and changes in the exchange rates.
Climate Action Tax Credit	330.0	363.0	373.0	373.0	
BC Child Opportunity Benefit	425.0	425.0	425.0	425.0	
Sales Tax	8.7	50.0	50.0	50.0	
Small Business Venture Capital	33.4	33.0	33.0	33.0	
BC Senior's Home Renovation	2.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	
Other tax transfers to individuals	183.7	113.0	113.0	113.0	
Corporations	863.0	1,057.0	1,145.0	1,227.0	
Film and Television	73.0	120.0	122.5	130.0	
Production Services	581.6	714.8	779.0	848.3	
Scientific Research & Experimental Development	81.3	97.3	102.3	107.3	
Interactive Digital Media	85.9	80.0	80.0	80.0	
Mining Exploration	28.3	25.0	25.0	25.0	
Other tax transfers to corporations	12.9	19.9	36.2	36.4	
Prior-year adjustment (included above)*					
Individuals	27.6				
Corporations	(132.7)				
<u>2020 Tax-year</u>	2020 Assumptions				
Tax Transfers	1,554.0				
Individuals	663.0				
Corporations	891.0				
Film and Television	82.0				
Production Services	607.0				
Scientific Research & Experimental Development	86.0				
Interactive Digital Media	78.0				
Other tax transfers to corporations	38.0				
*2021/22 tax transfer forecast incorporates adjustments relating to prior years.					
Management of Public Funds and Debt	1,285	1,378	1,555	1,751	
Interest rates for new provincial borrowing:					Full year impact on MoPD on interest costs of a 1% change in interest rates equals \$74.2 million; \$100 million increase in debt level equals \$2.5 million.
Short-term	0.20%	0.97%	1.72%	1.99%	
Long-term	2.75%	3.03%	3.23%	3.44%	
CDN/US exchange rate (cents)	125.3	124.9	126.5	126.7	
Service delivery agency net spending	8,250	8,765	9,372	9,728	
School districts	574	619	566	561	Agency expenses, net of Provincial funding. These are mainly funded through revenue from other sources.
Post-secondary institutions	4,419	4,759	4,995	5,164	
Health authorities and hospital societies	1,011	989	986	986	
BC Transportation Financing Authority	1,454	1,598	1,670	1,898	
BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc	68	226	298	246	
Other service delivery agencies	724	574	857	873	

Table A8 Operating Statement – 2015/16 to 2024/25

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Revenue	47,601	51,449	52,020	57,128	58,660	62,156	70,220	68,552	70,177	72,325	4.8
Expense	(46,832)	(48,684)	(51,707)	(55,597)	(58,982)	(67,624)	(69,703)	(73,013)	(73,359)	(74,506)	5.3
Surplus (deficit) before forecast allowance	769	2,765	313	1,531	(322)	(5,468)	517	(4,461)	(3,182)	(2,181)	
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	
Surplus (deficit)	769	2,765	313	1,531	(322)	(5,468)	(483)	(5,461)	(4,182)	(3,181)	
Per cent of nominal GDP: ¹											
Surplus (deficit)	0.3	1.0	0.1	0.5	-0.1	-1.8	-0.1	-1.5	-1.1	-0.8	
Per cent of revenue:											
Surplus (deficit)	1.6	5.4	0.6	2.7	-0.5	-8.8	-0.7	-8.0	-6.0	-4.4	
Per capita (\$): ²											
Surplus (deficit)	161	569	63	306	(63)	(1,060)	(93)	(1,027)	(774)	(580)	

¹ Surplus (deficit) as a per cent of nominal GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 amounts divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

² Per capita revenue and expense is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 amounts divided by population on July 1, 2022).

Table A9 Revenue by Source – 2015/16 to 2024/25

	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Taxation revenue:											
Personal income	8,380	9,704	8,923	11,364	10,657	11,118	13,680	12,848	13,360	13,955	5.8
Corporate income	2,787	3,003	4,165	5,180	5,011	4,805	5,064	5,501	5,827	6,455	9.8
Employer health	-	-	-	464	1,897	2,156	2,130	2,257	2,349	2,441	n/a
Sales	5,990	6,606	7,131	7,369	7,374	7,694	8,441	9,009	9,546	9,928	5.8
Fuel	973	969	1,010	1,015	1,008	936	1,039	1,051	1,059	1,068	1.0
Carbon	1,190	1,220	1,255	1,465	1,682	1,683	2,048	2,311	2,348	2,384	8.0
Tobacco	734	737	727	781	729	711	740	760	760	760	0.4
Property	2,219	2,279	2,367	2,617	2,608	2,313	3,020	3,173	3,354	3,514	5.2
Property transfer	1,533	2,026	2,141	1,826	1,609	2,098	3,250	2,500	2,406	2,461	5.4
Insurance premium	520	549	602	633	691	652	640	660	670	680	3.0
	24,326	27,093	28,321	32,714	33,266	34,166	40,052	40,070	41,679	43,646	6.7
Natural resource revenue:											
Natural gas royalties	139	152	161	199	118	196	749	911	691	580	17.2
Bonus bids, rents on drilling rights and leases	765	633	276	279	225	162	141	130	111	79	-22.3
Columbia River Treaty	116	111	111	202	119	117	237	257	260	230	7.9
Other energy and minerals	226	403	619	557	386	191	644	454	328	290	2.8
Forests	865	913	1,065	1,406	988	1,304	1,847	1,121	887	909	0.6
Other resources	460	499	463	465	432	433	505	514	521	518	1.3
	2,571	2,711	2,695	3,108	2,268	2,403	4,123	3,387	2,798	2,606	0.2
Other revenue:											
Medical Services Plan premiums	2,434	2,558	2,266	1,360	1,063	(4)	-	-	-	-	n/a
Post-secondary education fees	1,666	1,828	2,034	2,275	2,451	2,418	2,539	2,679	2,779	2,859	6.2
Other health-care related fees	374	404	429	441	475	372	421	437	441	441	1.8
Motor vehicle licences and permits	521	529	557	568	579	571	608	614	625	635	2.2
Other fees and licences	841	894	963	949	1,004	972	1,156	1,156	1,137	1,090	2.9
Investment earnings	1,213	1,232	1,101	1,243	1,263	1,264	1,369	1,298	1,344	1,344	1.1
Sales of goods and services	1,011	1,131	1,133	1,164	1,162	741	1,042	1,419	1,621	1,650	5.6
Miscellaneous	2,287	2,377	2,410	2,249	2,676	2,395	2,415	2,388	2,263	2,295	0.0
	10,347	10,953	10,893	10,249	10,673	8,729	9,550	9,991	10,210	10,314	0.0
Contributions from the federal government:											
Canada Health Transfer	4,454	4,744	4,994	5,182	5,523	5,701	6,424	6,183	6,681	7,021	5.2
Canada Social Transfer	1,695	1,751	1,854	1,908	1,971	2,042	2,110	2,180	2,251	2,322	3.6
Other cost shared agreements	1,498	1,672	2,207	1,962	2,041	5,151	2,948	2,977	2,810	2,589	6.3
	7,647	8,167	9,055	9,052	9,535	12,894	11,482	11,340	11,742	11,932	5.1
Commercial Crown corporation net income:											
BC Hydro ¹	655	684	663	(428)	705	688	681	712	712	712	0.9
Liquor Distribution Branch	1,031	1,083	1,119	1,104	1,107	1,161	1,153	1,166	1,198	1,225	1.9
BC Lottery Corporation ²	1,304	1,329	1,391	1,405	1,336	420	1,129	1,415	1,450	1,457	1.2
ICBC	(293)	(612)	(1,327)	(1,153)	(376)	1,528	1,904	327	240	280	-199.5
BC Railway Company	6	7	53	10	13	10	9	8	8	8	3.2
Transportation Investment Corporation	(80)	(81)	(29)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Other	87	115	116	117	133	157	137	136	140	145	5.8
Accounting adjustment ¹	-	-	(950)	950	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
	2,710	2,525	1,056	2,005	2,918	3,964	5,013	3,764	3,748	3,827	3.9
Total revenue	47,601	51,449	52,020	57,128	58,660	62,156	70,220	68,552	70,177	72,325	4.8

¹ BC Hydro's loss for 2018/19 includes a write-off of a regulatory account. At the summary level, the Province recognized a \$950 million adjustment in fiscal 2017/18 with respect to BC Hydro's deferred regulatory accounts.

² Net of payments to the federal government and beginning in 2021/22, is also net of payments under the gaming revenue sharing agreement with First Nations.

Table A10 Revenue by Source Supplementary Information – 2015/16 to 2024/25¹

	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Per cent of nominal GDP:²											
Taxation and Medical Services Plan premiums	10.7	11.2	10.8	11.5	11.0	11.0	11.5	10.9	10.9	11.0	0.3
Taxation	9.7	10.3	10.0	11.0	10.7	11.0	11.5	10.9	10.9	11.0	1.4
Medical Services Plan premiums	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.3	(0)	-	-	-	-	n/a
Natural resources	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.7	-4.9
Other	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.4	3.4	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	-5.0
Other excluding Medical Services Plan premiums	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	-2.2
Contributions from the federal government	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.1	4.2	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.0	-0.2
Commercial Crown corporation net income	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	-1.3
Total revenue	19.0	19.5	18.4	19.2	18.9	20.1	20.2	18.6	18.3	18.2	-0.5
Growth rates (per cent):											
Taxation and Medical Services Plan premiums	5.7	10.8	3.2	11.4	0.7	-0.5	17.2	0.0	4.0	4.7	n/a
Taxation	5.5	11.4	4.5	15.5	1.7	2.7	17.2	0.0	4.0	4.7	n/a
Medical Services Plan premiums	8.0	5.1	-11.4	-40.0	-21.8	-100.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Natural resources	-12.5	5.4	-0.6	15.3	-27.0	6.0	71.6	-17.9	-17.4	-6.9	n/a
Other	9.4	5.9	-0.5	-5.9	4.1	-18.2	9.4	4.6	2.2	1.0	n/a
Other excluding Medical Services Plan premiums	9.9	6.1	2.8	3.0	8.1	-9.1	9.4	4.6	2.2	1.0	n/a
Contributions from the federal government	5.1	6.8	10.9	0.0	5.3	35.2	-11.0	-1.2	3.5	1.6	n/a
Commercial Crown corporation net income	-19.6	-6.8	-58.2	89.9	45.5	35.8	26.5	-24.9	-0.4	2.1	n/a
Total revenue	3.3	8.1	1.1	9.8	2.7	6.0	13.0	-2.4	2.4	3.1	n/a
Per capita (\$):³											
Taxation and Medical Services Plan premiums	5,603	6,102	6,205	6,801	6,738	6,622	7,680	7,538	7,714	7,957	4.0
Taxation	5,093	5,576	5,745	6,529	6,529	6,623	7,680	7,538	7,714	7,957	5.1
Medical Services Plan premiums	510	526	460	271	209	(1)	-	-	-	-	n/a
Natural resources	538	558	547	620	445	466	791	637	518	475	-1.4
Other	2,166	2,254	2,210	2,046	2,095	1,692	1,831	1,880	1,890	1,880	-1.6
Other excluding Medical Services Plan premiums	1,657	1,728	1,750	1,774	1,886	1,693	1,831	1,880	1,890	1,880	1.4
Contributions from the federal government	1,601	1,681	1,837	1,807	1,872	2,499	2,202	2,133	2,173	2,175	3.5
Commercial Crown corporation net income	567	520	214	400	573	768	961	708	694	698	2.3
Total revenue	9,966	10,588	10,553	11,402	11,514	12,049	13,466	12,896	12,988	13,186	3.2
Real Per Capita Revenue (2021 \$)⁴	11,281	11,769	11,487	12,082	11,922	12,382	13,466	12,538	12,353	12,292	1.0
Growth rate (per cent)	3.4	4.3	-2.4	5.2	-1.3	3.9	8.8	-6.9	-1.5	-0.5	1.3

¹ Numbers may not add due to rounding.

² Revenue as a per cent of GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 revenue divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

³ Per capita revenue is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 revenue divided by population on July 1, 2022).

⁴ Revenue is converted to real (inflation-adjusted) terms using the consumer price index (CPI) for the corresponding calendar year (e.g. 2022 CPI for 2022/23 revenue).

Table A11 Expense by Function – 2015/16 to 2024/25^{1,2}

Function:	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Health:											
Medical Services Plan	4,345	4,573	4,623	4,861	5,013	5,145	5,589	6,111	6,348	6,537	4.6
Pharmacare	1,335	1,284	1,400	1,484	1,517	1,501	1,820	1,664	1,689	1,714	2.8
Regional services	12,811	13,079	14,094	14,996	16,047	18,282	18,067	18,839	19,308	19,822	5.0
Other healthcare expenses	712	753	810	800	872	677	992	1,071	1,116	1,174	5.7
Total health	19,203	19,689	20,927	22,151	23,449	25,605	26,268	27,685	28,461	29,247	4.8
Education:											
Elementary and secondary	6,303	6,422	6,918	7,253	7,583	7,443	8,059	8,332	8,335	8,338	3.2
Post-secondary	5,503	5,673	5,998	6,394	6,842	6,868	7,563	7,887	8,146	8,375	4.8
Other education expenses	407	374	176	442	310	632	439	454	406	404	-0.1
Total education	12,213	12,469	13,092	14,089	14,735	14,943	16,061	16,673	16,887	17,117	3.8
Social services:											
Social assistance	1,641	1,692	1,988	2,202	2,342	3,141	2,887	2,964	2,976	2,986	6.9
Child welfare	1,301	1,358	1,507	1,652	1,940	2,226	2,583	3,082	3,096	3,141	10.3
Low income tax credit transfers	247	244	239	414	435	1,131	370	413	423	423	6.2
Community living and other services	917	949	1,003	1,075	1,170	1,291	1,402	1,457	1,477	1,482	5.5
Total social services	4,106	4,243	4,737	5,343	5,887	7,789	7,242	7,916	7,972	8,032	7.7
Protection of persons and property	1,572	1,655	1,930	2,004	2,126	2,258	2,454	2,479	2,094	2,097	3.3
Transportation	1,670	1,784	1,931	2,021	2,126	3,360	2,373	2,454	2,379	2,446	4.3
Natural resources & economic development	2,477	2,465	3,374	3,825	3,778	4,191	4,008	3,748	3,954	4,054	5.6
Other	1,264	2,260	1,553	1,810	2,501	2,841	2,446	2,636	2,299	2,316	7.0
Contingencies - general programs and CleanBC	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	2,848	3,412	3,987	n/a
Pandemic Recovery Contingencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,250	2,000	1,000	-	n/a
General government	1,501	1,532	1,540	1,670	1,653	3,915	1,905	1,648	1,646	1,644	1.0
Debt servicing	2,826	2,587	2,623	2,684	2,727	2,722	2,696	2,926	3,255	3,566	2.6
Total expense	46,832	48,684	51,707	55,597	58,982	67,624	69,703	73,013	73,359	74,506	
Per cent of operating expense:											
Health	41.0	40.4	40.5	39.8	39.8	37.9	37.7	37.9	38.8	39.3	-0.5
Education	26.1	25.6	25.3	25.3	25.0	22.1	23.0	22.8	23.0	23.0	-1.4
Social services	8.8	8.7	9.2	9.6	10.0	11.5	10.4	10.8	10.9	10.8	2.3
Protection of persons and property	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.8	-1.9
Transportation	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	5.0	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	-0.9
Natural resources & economic development	5.3	5.1	6.5	6.9	6.4	6.2	5.8	5.1	5.4	5.4	0.3
Other	2.7	4.6	3.0	3.3	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.6	3.1	3.1	1.6
Contingencies - general programs and CleanBC	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.4	3.9	4.7	5.4	n/a
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.7	2.7	1.4	-	n/a
General government	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.8	5.8	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.2	-4.1
Debt servicing	6.0	5.3	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.8	-2.5
Operating expense	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

¹ Figures reflect government accounting policies used in the 2020/21 Public Accounts audited financial statements.

² Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Table A12 Expense by Function Supplementary Information – 2015/16 to 2024/25¹

	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Per cent of nominal GDP:²											
Health	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	8.3	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.3	-0.5
Education	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	-1.4
Social services	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.5	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.4
Protection of persons and property	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	-1.9
Transportation	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	-0.9
Natural resources & economic development	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.3
Other	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.6
Contingencies - general programs and CleanBC	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.8	0.9	1.0	n/a
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	-	n/a
General government	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	-4.0
Debt servicing	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	-2.5
Operating expense	18.7	18.4	18.3	18.7	19.0	21.9	20.1	19.8	19.2	18.7	0.0
Growth rates (per cent):											
Health	4.5	2.5	6.3	5.8	5.9	9.2	2.6	5.4	2.8	2.8	n/a
Education	3.3	2.1	5.0	7.6	4.6	1.4	7.5	3.8	1.3	1.4	n/a
Social services	6.7	3.3	11.6	12.8	10.2	32.3	-7.0	9.3	0.7	0.8	n/a
Protection of persons and property	8.3	5.3	16.6	3.8	6.1	6.2	8.7	1.0	-15.5	0.1	n/a
Transportation	3.9	6.8	8.2	4.7	5.2	58.0	-29.4	3.4	-3.1	2.8	n/a
Natural resources & economic development	13.1	-0.5	36.9	13.4	-1.2	10.9	-4.4	-6.5	5.5	2.5	n/a
Other	-1.9	78.8	-31.3	16.5	38.2	13.6	-13.9	7.8	-12.8	0.7	n/a
General government	10.4	2.1	0.5	8.4	-1.0	136.8	-51.3	-13.5	-0.1	-0.1	n/a
Debt servicing	13.1	-8.5	1.4	2.3	1.6	-0.2	-1.0	8.5	11.2	9.6	n/a
Operating expense	5.4	4.0	6.2	7.5	6.1	14.7	3.1	4.7	0.5	1.6	n/a
Per capita (\$):³											
Health	4,020	4,052	4,245	4,421	4,603	4,963	5,037	5,208	5,268	5,332	3.2
Education	2,557	2,566	2,656	2,812	2,892	2,897	3,080	3,137	3,125	3,121	2.2
Social services	860	873	961	1,066	1,155	1,510	1,389	1,489	1,475	1,464	6.1
Protection of persons and property	329	341	392	400	417	438	471	466	388	382	1.7
Transportation	350	367	392	403	417	451	455	462	440	446	2.7
Natural resources & economic development	519	507	684	763	742	812	769	705	732	739	4.0
Other	265	465	315	361	491	551	469	496	425	422	5.3
Contingencies - general programs and CleanBC	-	-	-	-	-	-	192	536	631	727	n/a
Pandemic and Recovery Contingencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	623	376	185	-	n/a
General government	314	315	312	333	324	759	365	310	305	300	-0.5
Debt servicing	592	532	532	536	535	528	517	550	602	650	1.0
Operating expense	9,806	10,018	10,489	11,095	11,576	13,109	13,367	13,735	13,576	13,583	3.7
Real Per Capita Operating Expense (2021 \$)⁴	11,098	11,137	11,417	11,758	11,987	13,472	13,366	13,354	12,913	12,663	1.5
Growth rate (per cent)	2.7	0.3	2.5	3.0	2.0	12.4	13.7	-0.1	-3.3	-1.9	3.1

¹ Numbers may not add due to rounding.

² Expense as a per cent of GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 expense divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

³ Per capita expense is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 expense divided by population on July 1, 2022).

⁴ Expense is converted to real (inflation-adjusted) terms using the consumer price index (CPI) for the corresponding calendar year (e.g. 2022 CPI for 2022/23 expense).

Table A13 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) – 2015/16 to 2024/2025 ¹

	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Taxpayer-supported programs and agencies:											
Ministries and special offices (CRF)	27,192	27,940	29,291	30,891	31,774	32,444	33,400	34,400	34,400	34,400	2.6
Service delivery agencies ²	4,803	4,850	5,076	5,258	5,985	6,042	6,698	8,108	8,670	8,194	6.1
Total FTEs	31,995	32,790	34,367	36,149	37,759	38,486	40,098	42,508	43,070	42,594	3.2
Growth rates (per cent):											
Ministries and special offices (CRF)	1.9	2.8	4.8	5.5	2.9	2.1	2.9	3.0	0.0	0.0	2.6
Service delivery agencies	0.1	1.0	4.7	3.6	13.8	1.0	10.9	21.1	6.9	-5.5	5.7
Population per FTE: ³											
Total FTEs	149.3	148.2	143.4	138.6	134.9	134.0	130.1	125.0	125.4	128.8	-1.6

¹ Full-time equivalents (FTEs) are a measure of staff employment. FTEs are calculated by dividing the total hours of employment paid for in a given period by the number of hours an individual, full-time person would normally work in that period. This does not equate to the physical number of employees. For example, two half-time employees would equal one FTE, or alternatively, three FTEs may represent two full-time employees who have worked sufficient overtime hours to equal an additional FTE.

² Service delivery agency FTE amounts do not include SUCH sector staff employment.

³ Population per FTE is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. population on July 1, 2022 divided by 2022/23 FTEs).

Table A14 Capital Spending – 2015/16 to 2024/25

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Taxpayer-supported:											
Education											
Schools districts	430	474	578	626	877	944	1,036	1,082	1,063	955	9.3
Post-secondary institutions	746	792	968	1,024	936	904	1,054	1,237	1,539	1,482	7.9
Health	923	1,004	890	904	1,009	1,162	2,051	2,584	2,818	3,164	14.7
BC Transportation Financing Authority ¹	867	823	717	853	955	1,285	1,716	2,644	2,528	2,038	10.0
BC Transit	51	41	115	85	73	107	82	178	291	293	21.4
Government direct (ministries)	290	301	430	421	520	389	457	755	492	441	4.8
Social Housing	127	184	169	483	355	572	672	572	426	254	8.0
Other	25	40	41	56	47	65	89	227	176	188	25.1
Total taxpayer-supported	3,459	3,659	3,908	4,452	4,772	5,428	7,157	9,279	9,333	8,815	11.0
Self-supported:											
BC Hydro	2,306	2,444	2,473	3,826	3,082	3,207	3,632	4,131	4,244	2,967	2.8
Columbia Basin power projects	15	2	1	2	994	7	9	11	11	17	1.4
Transportation Investment Corporation ¹	25	38	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
BC Railway Company	23	4	11	33	6	1	4	12	3	4	-17.7
ICBC	90	62	54	62	62	100	68	60	45	41	-8.4
BC Lottery Corporation	68	86	82	75	102	73	83	120	103	90	3.2
Liquor Distribution Branch	23	27	48	60	36	22	32	40	31	25	0.9
Other ²	23	62	56	44	104	65	-	-	-	-	n/a
Total self-supported	2,573	2,725	2,729	4,106	4,386	3,475	3,828	4,374	4,437	3,144	2.3
Total capital spending	6,032	6,384	6,637	8,558	9,158	8,903	10,985	13,653	13,770	11,959	7.9
Per cent of nominal GDP: ³											
Taxpayer-supported	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.2	5.4
Self-supported	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.8	-2.9
Total	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.7	3.6	3.0	2.5
Growth rates:											
Taxpayer-supported	1.5	5.8	6.8	13.9	7.2	13.7	31.9	29.6	0.6	-5.6	10.6
Self-supported	3.4	5.9	0.1	50.5	6.8	-20.8	10.2	14.3	1.4	-29.1	4.3
Total	2.3	5.8	4.0	28.9	7.0	-2.8	23.4	24.3	0.9	-13.2	8.1
Per capita: ⁴											
Taxpayer-supported	724	753	793	889	937	1,052	1,372	1,746	1,727	1,607	9.3
Self-supported	539	561	554	819	861	674	734	823	821	573	0.7
Total	1,263	1,314	1,346	1,708	1,798	1,726	2,107	2,568	2,549	2,180	6.3
Real Per Capita Capital Spending (2021 \$) ⁵ ...	1,429	1,460	1,466	1,810	1,861	1,773	2,107	2,497	2,424	2,032	4.0
Growth rate (per cent)	-0.3	2.2	0.4	23.5	2.8	-4.7	13.2	18.5	-2.9	-16.1	3.7

¹ Includes Transportation Investment Plan capital spending and, beginning in 2017/18, Transportation Investment Corporation rehabilitation costs for the Port Mann Bridge due to reclassification from self-supported commercial Crown corporation to a taxpayer-supported agency in response to the cancellation of tolls. Effective April 1, 2018, Transportation Investment Corporation became a subsidiary of BCTFA.

² Includes post-secondary institutions' self-supported subsidiaries.

³ Capital spending as a per cent of GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 amounts divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

⁴ Per capita capital spending is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 amounts divided by population on July 1, 2022).

⁵ Capital spending is converted to real (inflation-adjusted) terms using the consumer price index (CPI) for the corresponding calendar year (e.g. 2022 CPI for 2022/23 capital spending).

Table A15 Statement of Financial Position – 2015/16 to 2024/25

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Financial assets:											
Cash and temporary investments	3,892	4,232	3,440	3,029	3,985	6,560	3,289	2,690	2,769	2,895	-3.2
Other financial assets	9,691	10,198	11,729	12,625	12,394	15,399	15,748	17,540	18,550	18,410	7.4
Sinking funds	1,580	1,087	1,348	752	692	492	513	529	518	563	-10.8
Investments in commercial Crown corporations:											
Retained earnings	7,529	7,509	6,126	5,732	6,515	9,623	12,529	13,603	14,740	15,985	8.7
Recoverable capital loans	22,041	23,809	20,534	22,547	24,768	26,301	27,540	29,692	31,737	32,672	4.5
Total investments in commercial Crown corporations	29,570	31,318	26,660	28,279	31,283	35,924	40,069	43,295	46,477	48,657	5.7
Total financial assets	44,733	46,835	43,177	44,685	48,354	58,375	59,619	64,054	68,314	70,525	5.2
Liabilities:											
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	8,618	9,031	9,751	10,573	11,497	13,092	13,506	14,664	16,007	17,383	8.1
Deferred revenue	9,857	9,639	10,042	10,517	10,626	12,185	12,956	14,310	15,782	16,851	6.1
Debt:											
Taxpayer-supported debt	42,719	41,499	43,607	42,681	46,229	59,750	61,731	73,475	83,302	90,846	8.7
Self-supported debt	22,532	24,338	21,312	23,281	25,932	27,350	28,814	30,956	33,004	33,930	4.7
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	n/a
Total provincial debt	65,251	65,837	64,919	65,962	72,161	87,100	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776	7.6
Add: debt offset by sinking funds	1,580	1,087	1,348	752	692	492	513	529	518	563	-10.8
Less: guarantees and non-guaranteed debt	(820)	(835)	(896)	(850)	(1,337)	(1,335)	(1,278)	(1,269)	(1,271)	(1,261)	4.9
Financial statement debt	66,011	66,089	65,371	65,864	71,516	86,257	90,780	104,691	116,553	125,078	7.4
Total liabilities	84,486	84,759	85,164	86,954	93,639	111,534	117,242	133,665	148,342	159,312	7.3
Net liabilities	(39,753)	(37,924)	(41,987)	(42,269)	(45,285)	(53,159)	(57,623)	(69,611)	(80,028)	(88,787)	9.3
Capital and other assets:											
Tangible capital assets	40,282	41,303	45,836	47,829	50,023	52,781	57,319	63,785	70,117	75,864	7.3
Restricted assets	1,631	1,695	1,768	1,834	1,931	2,003	2,126	2,192	2,260	2,327	4.0
Other assets	1,039	1,126	932	952	1,100	1,582	1,215	1,220	1,220	1,221	1.8
Total capital and other non-financial assets	42,952	44,124	48,536	50,615	53,054	56,366	60,660	67,197	73,597	79,412	7.1
Accumulated surplus (deficit)	3,199	6,200	6,549	8,346	7,769	3,207	3,037	(2,414)	(6,431)	(9,375)	-212.7
Per cent of nominal GDP:¹											
Net liabilities	15.9	14.4	14.9	14.2	14.6	17.2	16.6	18.9	20.9	22.3	3.9
Capital and other assets	17.1	16.7	17.2	17.0	17.1	18.2	17.4	18.3	19.2	19.9	1.7
Growth rates (per cent):											
Net liabilities	2.5	-4.6	10.7	0.7	7.1	17.4	8.4	20.8	15.0	10.9	17.7
Capital and other assets	2.4	2.7	10.0	4.3	4.8	6.2	7.6	10.8	9.5	7.9	14.4
Per capita:²											
Net liabilities	8,323	7,804	8,518	8,436	8,888	10,305	11,050	13,096	14,812	16,187	7.7
Capital and other assets	8,993	9,080	9,846	10,102	10,413	10,926	11,632	12,642	13,621	14,478	5.4

¹ Net liabilities as a per cent of nominal GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 amount divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

² Per capita net liabilities is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 amount divided by population on July 1, 2022).

Table A16 Changes in Financial Position – 2015/16 to 2024/25

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	10-Year Total
(Surplus) deficit for the year	(769)	(2,765)	(313)	(1,531)	322	5,468	483	5,461	4,182	3,181	13,719
Comprehensive income (increase) decrease	647	(236)	(36)	(266)	255	(906)	(313)	(10)	(165)	(237)	(1,267)
Change in accumulated (surplus) deficit	(122)	(3,001)	(349)	(1,797)	577	4,562	170	5,451	4,017	2,944	12,452
Capital and other asset changes:											
Taxpayer-supported capital investments	3,459	3,659	3,908	4,452	4,772	5,428	7,157	9,279	9,333	8,815	60,262
Less: amortization and other accounting changes	(2,205)	(2,638)	625	(2,459)	(2,578)	(2,670)	(2,619)	(2,813)	(3,001)	(3,068)	(23,426)
Increase in net capital assets	1,254	1,021	4,533	1,993	2,194	2,758	4,538	6,466	6,332	5,747	36,836
Increase (decrease) in restricted assets	78	64	73	66	97	72	123	66	68	67	774
Increase (decrease) in other assets	(228)	87	(194)	20	148	482	(367)	5	-	1	(46)
Change in capital and other assets	1,104	1,172	4,412	2,079	2,439	3,312	4,294	6,537	6,400	5,815	37,564
Increase (decrease) in net liabilities	982	(1,829)	4,063	282	3,016	7,874	4,464	11,988	10,417	8,759	50,016
Investment and working capital changes:											
Investment in commercial Crown corporations:											
Increase (decrease) in retained earnings	(740)	(20)	(1,383)	(394)	783	3,108	2,906	1,074	1,137	1,245	7,716
Self-supported capital investments	2,573	2,725	2,729	4,106	4,386	3,475	3,828	4,374	4,437	3,144	35,777
Less: loan repayments and other accounting changes	(1,156)	(957)	(6,004)	(2,093)	(2,165)	(1,942)	(2,589)	(2,222)	(2,392)	(2,209)	(23,729)
Change in investment	677	1,748	(4,658)	1,619	3,004	4,641	4,145	3,226	3,182	2,180	19,764
Increase (decrease) in cash and temporary investments	217	340	(792)	(411)	956	2,575	(3,271)	(599)	79	126	(780)
Other working capital changes	977	(181)	669	(997)	(1,324)	(349)	(815)	(704)	(1,816)	(2,540)	(7,080)
Changes in investment and working capital	1,871	1,907	(4,781)	211	2,636	6,867	59	1,923	1,445	(234)	11,904
Increase (decrease) in financial statement debt	2,853	78	(718)	493	5,652	14,741	4,523	13,911	11,862	8,525	61,920
(Increase) decrease in sinking fund debt	(603)	493	(261)	596	60	200	(21)	(16)	11	(45)	414
Increase (decrease) in guarantees	6	(23)	(188)	(2)	57	113	(282)	1	(1)	(1)	(320)
Increase (decrease) in non-guaranteed debt	75	38	249	(44)	430	(115)	225	(10)	3	(9)	842
Increase (decrease) in total provincial debt	2,331	586	(918)	1,043	6,199	14,939	4,445	13,886	11,875	8,470	62,856
Represented by increase (decrease) in:											
Taxpayer-supported debt	839	(1,220)	2,108	(926)	3,548	13,521	1,981	11,744	9,827	7,544	48,966
Self-supported debt	1,492	1,806	(3,026)	1,969	2,651	1,418	1,464	2,142	2,048	926	12,890
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Total provincial debt	2,331	586	(918)	1,043	6,199	14,939	4,445	13,886	11,875	8,470	62,856

Table A17 Provincial Debt – 2015/16 to 2024/25

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Taxpayer-supported debt:											
Provincial government											
Operating	8,034	4,644	1,156	-	-	8,746	5,719	10,411	12,644	13,741	6.1
Capital ²											
K-12 education	8,012	8,454	8,891	8,885	9,757	10,529	11,456	12,225	13,077	13,900	6.3
Post-secondary institutions	4,063	4,285	4,584	4,607	4,917	5,426	5,783	6,238	6,833	7,502	7.1
Health facilities	5,416	5,835	6,141	6,173	6,705	7,484	8,449	9,791	11,571	14,120	11.2
Ministries general capital	1,987	2,288	2,718	2,363	3,133	3,702	4,246	4,793	5,224	5,605	12.2
Transportation	2,174	2,174	5,682	5,401	5,401	5,401	5,401	5,403	5,405	5,406	10.7
Social housing	428	449	619	619	805	1,062	1,451	1,797	2,024	2,232	20.1
Other	242	242	242	242	252	259	273	327	446	595	10.5
Total capital	22,322	23,727	28,877	28,290	30,970	33,863	37,058	40,573	44,578	49,360	9.2
Total provincial government	30,356	28,371	30,033	28,290	30,970	42,609	42,777	50,984	57,222	63,101	8.5
Taxpayer-supported entities:											
BC Pavilion Corporation	156	143	141	138	135	132	129	126	123	119	-2.9
BC Transit	106	94	84	73	65	60	57	110	182	242	9.6
BC Transportation Financing Authority	9,177	9,974	10,388	11,293	12,193	13,321	14,956	17,512	20,262	22,479	10.5
Health Authorities and Hospital Societies	1,582	1,717	1,762	1,795	1,802	1,875	1,869	1,831	1,787	1,739	1.1
InBC Investment Corp	304	217	161	70	45	37	19	29	29	29	-23.0
Post-secondary institutions	668	699	744	763	753	882	899	888	966	950	4.0
School districts	21	19	17	19	18	24	31	36	40	45	8.8
Social housing	332	246	259	225	222	770	958	1,932	2,665	2,113	22.8
Other	17	19	18	15	26	40	36	27	26	29	6.2
Total taxpayer-supported entities	12,363	13,128	13,574	14,391	15,259	17,141	18,954	22,491	26,080	27,745	9.4
Total taxpayer-supported debt	42,719	41,499	43,607	42,681	46,229	59,750	61,731	73,475	83,302	90,846	8.7
Self-supported debt:											
Commercial Crown corporations and agencies											
BC Hydro	17,929	19,685	19,990	22,064	23,238	24,650	26,128	28,290	30,432	31,397	6.4
BC Liquor Distribution Branch	-	-	-	-	210	233	204	213	236	247	2.7
BC Lottery Corporation	150	145	155	100	233	228	207	202	110	86	-6.0
Columbia Basin power projects	459	448	433	418	1,387	1,349	1,325	1,300	1,273	1,244	11.7
Columbia Power Corporation	296	291	286	282	276	271	266	261	255	249	-1.9
Post-secondary institution subsidiaries ..	310	340	418	387	504	520	575	575	574	575	7.1
Transportation Investment Corporation ¹	3,355	3,398	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Other	33	31	30	30	84	99	109	116	124	132	16.6
Total self-supported debt	22,532	24,338	21,312	23,281	25,932	27,350	28,814	30,956	33,004	33,930	4.7
Forecast allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	n/a
Total provincial debt	65,251	65,837	64,919	65,962	72,161	87,100	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776	7.6

¹ Beginning in 2017/18, debt related to the Port Mann Bridge was reclassified as taxpayer-supported due to the elimination of tolls effective September 1, 2017.

² Includes debt incurred by the government to fund the building and construction of capital assets in the education, health, social housing and other sectors.

Table A18 Provincial Debt Supplementary Information – 2015/16 to 2024/25¹

(\$ millions)	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Per cent of nominal GDP: ²											
Taxpayer-supported debt:											
Provincial government direct operating	3.2	1.8	0.4	-	-	2.8	1.6	2.8	3.3	3.5	0.8
Provincial government capital	8.9	9.0	10.2	9.5	10.0	10.9	10.7	11.0	11.6	12.4	3.8
Total provincial government	12.1	10.8	10.6	9.5	10.0	13.8	12.3	13.9	14.9	15.9	3.0
Taxpayer-supported entities	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.5	5.5	6.1	6.8	7.0	3.9
Total taxpayer-supported debt	17.0	15.7	15.4	14.4	14.9	19.3	17.8	20.0	21.8	22.8	3.3
Self-supported debt:											
Commercial Crown corporations & agencies	9.0	9.2	7.6	7.8	8.3	8.8	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.5	-0.6
Total provincial debt	26.0	24.9	23.0	22.2	23.2	28.2	26.3	28.7	30.6	31.6	2.2
Growth rates (per cent):											
Taxpayer-supported debt:											
Provincial government direct operating	-13.4	-42.2	-75.1	-100.0	-	-	-34.6	82.0	21.4	8.7	-15.3
Provincial government capital	6.0	6.3	21.7	-2.0	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.9	10.7	9.0
Taxpayer-supported entities	7.2	6.2	3.4	6.0	6.0	12.3	10.6	18.7	16.0	6.4	9.3
Total taxpayer-supported debt	2.0	-2.9	5.1	-2.1	8.3	29.2	3.3	19.0	13.4	9.1	8.4
Self-supported debt:											
Commercial Crown corporations & agencies	7.1	8.0	-12.4	9.2	11.4	5.5	5.4	7.4	6.6	2.8	5.1
Total provincial debt	3.7	0.9	-1.4	1.6	9.4	20.7	5.1	15.2	11.3	7.2	7.4
Per capita: ³											
Taxpayer-supported debt:											
Provincial government direct operating	1,682	956	235	-	-	1,695	1,097	1,959	2,340	2,505	4.5
Provincial government capital	4,673	4,883	5,858	5,646	6,079	6,564	7,106	7,633	8,251	8,999	7.6
Taxpayer-supported entities	2,588	2,702	2,754	2,872	2,995	3,323	3,635	4,231	4,827	5,058	7.7
Total taxpayer-supported debt	8,944	8,540	8,846	8,518	9,074	11,582	11,838	13,823	15,418	16,562	7.1
Self-supported debt:											
Commercial Crown corporations & agencies	4,717	5,009	4,323	4,646	5,090	5,302	5,525	5,824	6,108	6,186	3.1
Total provincial debt	13,661	13,549	13,170	13,165	14,164	16,884	17,555	19,834	21,711	22,931	5.9
Real Per Capita Provincial Debt (2021 \$) ⁴	15,463	15,061	14,335	13,950	14,666	17,350	17,555	19,284	20,649	21,376	3.7
Growth rate (per cent)	1.1	-2.6	-4.8	-2.7	5.1	18.3	1.2	9.8	7.1	3.5	3.6

¹ Numbers may not add due to rounding.

² Debt as a per cent of GDP is calculated using nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 debt divided by nominal GDP for the 2022 calendar year).

³ Per capita debt is calculated using July 1 population (e.g. 2022/23 debt divided by population on July 1, 2022).

⁴ Debt is converted to real (inflation-adjusted) terms using the consumer price index (CPI) for the corresponding calendar year (e.g. 2022 CPI for 2022/23 debt).

Table A19 Key Provincial Debt Indicators – 2015/16 to 2024/25

	Actual 2015/16	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Actual 2018/19	Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	Updated Forecast 2021/22	Budget Estimate 2022/23	Plan 2023/24	Plan 2024/25	Average annual change (per cent)
Debt to revenue (per cent)											
Total provincial	105.9	99.3	94.7	89.5	95.9	115.1	107.4	124.5	135.1	140.8	3.2
Taxpayer-supported	91.3	81.8	82.5	75.0	80.6	101.2	92.9	110.9	122.7	129.8	4.0
Debt per capita (\$) ¹											
Total provincial	13,661	13,549	13,170	13,165	14,164	16,884	17,555	19,834	21,711	22,931	5.9
Taxpayer-supported	8,944	8,540	8,846	8,518	9,074	11,582	11,838	13,823	15,418	16,562	7.1
Debt to nominal GDP (per cent) ²											
Total provincial	26.0	24.9	23.0	22.2	23.2	28.2	26.3	28.7	30.6	31.6	2.2
Taxpayer-supported	17.0	15.7	15.4	14.4	14.9	19.3	17.8	20.0	21.8	22.8	3.3
Interest bite (cents per dollar of revenue) ³											
Total provincial	4.7	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.8	4.1	-1.5
Taxpayer-supported	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.7	-1.1
Interest costs (\$ millions)											
Total provincial	2,919	2,521	2,759	2,786	2,893	2,817	2,965	2,967	3,341	3,683	2.6
Taxpayer-supported	1,932	1,644	1,725	1,793	1,807	1,832	1,852	2,012	2,329	2,615	3.4
Interest rate (per cent) ⁴											
Taxpayer-supported	4.6	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	-4.6
Background Information:											
Revenue (\$ millions)											
Total provincial ⁵	61,589	66,334	68,551	73,734	75,283	75,691	85,258	84,672	86,809	89,347	4.2
Taxpayer-supported ⁶	46,805	50,726	52,866	56,881	57,386	59,033	66,483	66,226	67,884	69,977	4.6
Debt (\$ millions)											
Total provincial	65,251	65,837	64,919	65,962	72,161	87,100	91,545	105,431	117,306	125,776	7.6
Taxpayer-supported ⁷	42,719	41,499	43,607	42,681	46,229	59,750	61,731	73,475	83,302	90,846	8.7
Provincial nominal GDP (\$ millions) ⁸	250,784	263,912	282,283	297,392	310,978	309,327	347,653	367,966	382,899	398,108	5.3
Population (thousands at July 1) ⁹	4,776	4,859	4,929	5,010	5,095	5,159	5,215	5,316	5,403	5,485	1.5

¹ The ratio of debt to population (e.g. 2022/23 debt divided by population at July 1, 2022).

² The ratio of debt outstanding at fiscal year end to provincial nominal gross domestic product (GDP) for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. 2022/23 debt divided by 2022 nominal GDP).

³ The ratio of interest costs (less sinking fund interest) to revenue. Figures include capitalized interest expense in order to provide a more comparable measure to outstanding debt.

⁴ Weighted average of all outstanding debt issues.

⁵ Includes revenue of the consolidated revenue fund (excluding dividends from enterprises) plus revenue of all government organizations and enterprises.

⁶ Excludes revenue of government enterprises, but includes dividends from enterprises paid to the consolidated revenue fund.

⁷ Excludes debt of commercial Crown corporations and agencies and funds held under the province's warehouse borrowing program.

⁸ Nominal GDP for the calendar year ending in the fiscal year (e.g. nominal GDP for 2022 is used for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023).

⁹ Population at July 1st within the fiscal year (e.g. population at July 1, 2022 is used for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023).

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