Ministry of Small Business,

Technology and Economic Development

2008/09 Annual Service Plan Report



Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development

For more information on how to contact the British Columbia Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development, see Ministry Contact Information on Page 18 or contact:

Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development PO BOX 9324 STN PROV GOVT VICTORIA BC V8W 9N3

or visit our website at *www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev*

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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development has achieved the objectives established in its 2008/09 Service Plan and we are pleased to report results for our new areas of responsibility: research and innovation, small business and regulatory reform.

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009, the global economy faced unprecedented challenges. Despite the global economic downturn, the number and value of major construction projects planned or underway across B.C. continued to rise in 2008, with 2,606 major construction

projects, worth an estimated \$523.8 billion, planned or underway between April and December.

British Columbia continued to strengthen our relationships with the the Asia Pacific region – the fastest growing marketplace for the province's exports. We hosted more than 60 inbound and 16 outbound missions resulting in 26 memoranda of understanding that signal potential business deals. We opened three new trade and investment offices in Beijing, Guangzhou and Seoul, as well as the Asia-Pacific Business Centre in Vancouver's Robson Square. The centre is a first point of contact for B.C.- based businesses wanting to do business in Asia, and connects Asian investors with economic opportunities in British Columbia. More than 60 investment leads and prospects have been serviced to attract new business to B.C.

The Province also hosted major economic summits in Prince George and Vancouver to help shape future economic directions.

British Columbia became the first province to introduce legislation to provide full labour mobility for skilled trades and professionals, supporting the national Agreement on Internal Trade. Meanwhile, through the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement, we worked to reduce and eliminate barriers to the free movement of workers, goods, services and investments between B.C. and Alberta, creating a market of 7.8 million people – Canada's second largest economy.

We continued to help all areas of the province achieve their economic potential. One vehicle, the Innovative Clean Energy Fund, also supports government's goal of helping B.C. lead the world in sustainable environmental management. Through the ICE Fund, we invested in 19 projects in communities across B.C., providing solutions to energy challenges and helping commercialize innovative new technolgies to make them available to the rest of the world.

A second vehicle is a new area of responsibility for this ministry – small business. Our province has led the nation in small business growth over the past five years and over fifty-six per cent of private sector jobs are with small businesses - the highest rate in the country. We support the work of the Small Business Roundtable and are committed to making B.C. the most small

business friendly jursidiction in Canada. We are making it easier andless expensive to do business throughout B.C. with the BizPaL online permit and licencing service that was launched in fiscal 2007/08 and is now available in 75 communities.

In June 2008, this ministry was also given responsibility for research and innovation. Since then, we have announced the appointment of five permanently endowed research chairs at B.C. universities through the Leading Edge Endowment Fund.

The *Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development 2008/09 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the Ministry's 2008/09-2010/11 Service Plan. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Tain Black.

Honourable Iain Black Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development

June 26, 2009

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Highlights of the Year

Asia-Pacific

The Asia Pacific Initiative is a key element of the Province's strategy to strengthen British Columbia's competitive position as the preferred economic and cultural gateway between North America and the Asia Pacific region. The Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development leads the government-wide initiative on behalf of the province. There was significant progress across all components of the initiative despite mid-year financial and organizational restructuring. Selected highlights include:

- Premier Gordon Campbell and Governor Moon-Soo Kim signed a twinning agreement making British Columbia and Korea's Gyeonggi-do sister provinces in May 2008.
- In June 2008, British Columbia and India entered a \$2 million bilateral agreement to fund collaborative research and development projects with commercial potential between Indian and B.C.-based companies, partnership development activities and inter-jurisdictional internships for students and researchers.
- Industry Canada reported B.C.'s total exports to the Asia-Pacific and India were worth more than \$10.6 billion in 2008 an increase of over 50 per cent since 1999.
- In November 2008, the Governments of Canada, China, and British Columbia signed a memorandum of understanding in support of the \$8-million Wenchuan Earthquake Reconstruction Project to replace buildings damaged or destroyed in the devastating May 2008 earthquake in Sichuan Province, China.
- Launched the multilingual website <u>www.CanadasPacificGateway.ca</u> in traditional and simplified Chinese, English, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Punjabi, and Spanish to promote B.C. as a world-class destination to live, work, play, invest and do business.
- The Province's Asia-Pacific trade and investment offices ensured B.C., its companies, and technologies were front-and-centre at leading industry trade shows and conferences including the Tokyo Video Game Show, ENTECH 2008 Green and Renewable Energy Expo (Korea), CommunicAsia 2008 ICT Show (Singapore), G-Star 2008 Video Game Expo (Korea), International Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Expo 2009 (Japan), and FoodEX Japan.

Research and Innovation

In November, the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre – the world's largest, most advanced and most comprehensive facility for spinal cord injury research and patient care – opened its doors, with \$12.9 million funding from the B.C. Knowledge Development Fund.

The Innovative Clean Energy Fund invested \$25 million in 19 projects with a total value of \$96 million in communities throughout B.C. to solve energy challenges and helping commercialize innovative new technologies to make them available to the rest of the world. The Province also

announced investment of \$10 million to support the production of liquid biofuels with demonstrated low greenhouse gas emissions.

Competitiveness

The Province was the first in Canada to introduce legislation respecting the labour mobility requirements of the Agreement of Internal Trade and was in full compliance on April 1, 2009. All sections of the *Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Implementation Act* were brought into force in 2008/09.

Small Business

The Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development continued to fulfill government's commitment to make B.C. the most small business friendly jurisdiction in Canada. The Ministry partnered with the Small Business Roundtable and other organizations to cultivate an environment in which small businesses succeed, where regulatory requirements are streamlined and small businesses can expand and improve their operations. The October 2007 Action Plan for Small Business set out the government's three year strategy for supporting small business growth and success.

The 2008/2009 fiscal year saw significant progress on all of the key strategies in the Action Plan, most notably the following:

- Implement the BizPaL online business information tool across British Columbia:BizPaL is a free web-based service that simplifies and quickly identifies the federal, provincial and local government permits and licences required to start a business in a specific community. By linking the permits and licences of all three levels of government, BizPaL streamlines the business start-up process, saving entrepreneurs time and money. During 2008/2009, BizPaL availability grew from 25 to 75 of the province's 160 municipalities.
- Expanding the Inter-Community Business Licence, allowing mobile small businesses to operate across municipal boundaries: The Ministry, working with local governments, launched the Okanagan-Similkameen Mobile Business Licence pilot project in 17 area communities. Effective January 1, 2009, the pilot became a permanent licence under the new name of the Inter-Community Business Licence.
- **Building Skills for Small Business initiative:** In June 2008 two products were launched under the initiative, an online Human Resource Quiz and a Small Business Resource Guide consisting of training resources focused on recruitment, retention and leadership.

Straightforward BC

Straight*forward* BC: regulation, clear & simple, continued to reduce the regultory burden on British Columbians while developing innovative ways to deliver program and services. Modernizing the regulatory environment is key to increasing B.C.'s economic competitiveness and we are streamlining our regulatory requirements to encourage prosperity, innovation and opportunity.

Purpose of Ministry

The Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development helps to build a strong provincial economy that maximizes opportunities and small business growth throughout the province. The Ministry facilitates economic growth, wealth and job creation, and diversification of provincial and regional economies. The Ministry is committed to working with First Nation communities, Aboriginal people, local communities and regions as well as small businesses, industry, educational and non-governmental organizations.

Small business is a significant driver of British Columbia's economic growth and is vital to the province's economic success. The Ministry supports a business climate where small business prospers by improving the province's competitiveness as a place to visit, live, work, invest and do business. The Ministry works with other ministries, partners, the small business community, and the private sector and supports the Small Business Roundtable to identify and address economic competitiveness issues and make B.C. the most small business friendly jurisdiction in Canada.

The Ministry's activities include marketing and promoting British Columbia to expand trade and investment opportunities and increase sales and exports of goods and services. The Ministry contributes to sustaining economic growth throughout the province by removing barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility; diversifying the economy; and encouraging the development and adoption of clean and renewable technology.

The Ministry provides funding for research, innovation and technology to diversify the economy away from traditional commodity sectors to high-growth high-opportunity sectors and to fuel sustained economic growth throughout the Province. The Ministry's responsibilities include: oversight of funding through the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund contributions to research organizations; internship funding for graduate students; the Premier's Technology Council; the BC Progress Board; the British Columbia Innovation Council and the BC Immigrant Investment Fund. The Ministry also ensures alignment with the objectives of the B.C. Research and Innovation Strategy.

The Ministry is also responsible for leading the way to the province's low-carbon economy. With our groundbreaking research, strong collaborative leadership and competitive business climate, B.C. is a world-class locale for the production of clean and green technologies. B.C. is emerging as a global leader in sustainable development, environmental technologies and innovative energy management.

The Ministry identifies and advances British Columbia's priorities to the federal government in negotiations of international trade agreements, including the anticipated Canada-European Union Economic Partnership. In addition, the Ministry leads British Columbia's participation in the national Agreement on Internal Trade and the Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between British Columbia and Alberta. The Trade Investment and Labour Mobility

Agreement strives to create a more open, competitive economy by eliminating barriers that restrict or impair trade, investment or labour mobility.

The Ministry is directly responsible for the Asia Pacific Initiative, a government and province wide strategy released in April 2007. This initiative ensures B.C.'s efforts are strategically oriented toward the economic, social and cultural opportunities represented by the Asia-Pacific region. The Ministry is taking both leadership and supporting roles in ensuring this significant undertaking is successful in achieving the greatest possible growth in trade and investment for the province.

Strategic Context

Economic: Global financial market conditions affected economic performance in B.C. The lower Canadian dollar provided some relief to companies with revenues in U.S. dollars and costs in Canadian dollars and made B.C. an attractive destination for American travellers. Within B.C., a softer housing market was counteracted by continued infrastructure and non-residential investments. Since September 2008 the number and value of major projects considered on hold within the province has increased, but the overall economic activity of additional projects and their increased value has helped to soften the impact of the economic downturn.

Asia-Pacific: Woodframe structures were the only buildings to survive the May 2008 earthquake in Wenchuan China. The \$8 million Wenchuan Earthquake reconstruction project was announced in June 2008 with \$5 million in funding from B.C. and \$3 million from Canada. Three projects are underway to simultaneously demonstrate the superior seismic stability, energy efficiency and environmental impact of modern woodframe construction in multi-story residential applications, creating an opportunity for B.C. to gain a greater market share of China's market for wood and wood products.

Labour Market and Trade: At the July 2008 Council of the Federation meeting the Premier announced British Columbia would introduce new legislation and be compliant with the labour mobility provisions of the Agreement on Internal Trade by April 1, 2009. The province faced significant labour market challenges due to shortages in key areas and the growing need to replace older workers who are retiring. The Province made progress against these challenges by removing barriers to labour mobility through the Agreement on Internal Trade and the BC-Alberta Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement.

Report on Performance

The Ministry achieved or exceeded all of the performance results set for the 2008/09 Service Plan. The Ministry was restructured twice during the reporting period. In June 2008 Ministry portfolios were realigned transferring three major Ministry programs out of and one major program into the newly formed Ministry of Technology, Trade and Economic Development.

Labour market development functions and responsibilities for the province's labour and skills supply including the Provincial Nominee Program, the Skills Connect for Immigrants pilot program, and the International Qualifications programs were transferred to the newly formed Ministry of Advance Education and Labour Market Development. Community development functions including projects, initiatives, and trusts that support regional economic growth were transferred to the Ministry of Community and Rural Development. Responsibilities for federal-provincial and community infrastructure programs were transferred to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Responsibilities for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games were transferred to the Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics. Responsibilities for technology, research and innovation, including the BC Innovation Council were transferred into the Ministry.

Finally, in January 2009 responsibilities for small business, including the Small Business Roundtable, and Straight*forward* BC: regulation, clear & simple, the province's regulatory reform initiative, were transferred into the Ministry and it was renamed the Ministry of Small Business, Technology, and Economic Development.

Performance Plan Summary Table

Goa	1: B.C.is recognized globally as a preferred place to visit, live, work, invest and do business, and as Canada's Pacific Gateway (From the former Ministry of Economic Development)	2008/09 Target	2008/09 Actual
1.1	Increase flows of investment, skills and talent into B.C. and increase trade with key markets Percentage of Canada's venture capital invested in B.C and the amount of foreign venture capital invested - Total venture capital invested in B.C	\$248 M	\$259 M Exceeded
	- The amount of foreign capital invested in B.C.	\$80 M or 32%	\$108 M or 42% Exceeded
	- B.C.'s share of Canada's total investment	13%	19% Exceeded
Goa	2: The most small business friendly jurisdiction in Canada (From the former Ministry of Small Business and Revenue)	2008/09 Target	2008/09 Actual
2.1	A business climate in which small business prospers Availability of BiZPaL to communities	75 of 157	ACHIEVED
Goa	3: A global leader in regulatory reform (From the former Ministry of Small Business and Revenue)	2008/09 Target	2008/09 Actual
3.1	A streamlined and simplified regulatory environment Number of government-wide regulatory requirements	228,834 0.0% net increase over baseline	208,576 -8.85% net decrease over baseline EXCEEDED

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

Goal 1: British Columbia is recognized globally as a preferred place to visit, live, work, invest and do business, and as Canada's Pacific Gateway

Objective 1.1: Increase flows of investment, skills and talent into B.C., while also increasing trade with key markets

Strategies

- Increase the level of venture capital available in B.C.
- Promote investment opportunities in B.C.
- Attract greater foreign direct investment through initiatives to increase participation of B.C. businesses in key markets
- Enhance commercial connections in Asia, the U.S. and Europe
- Build up partnerships with key players active in Asia-Pacific marketing and in international business development to attract headquarters and operations to B.C.

Performance Results

Performance Measure 1: Percentage of Canada's venture capital invested in B.C .and the amount of foreign capital invested in B.C.

Performance Measure	Benchmark	2006/07 Actual	2007/08 Actual	2008/09 Target	2008/09 Actual
Total venture capital invested in B.C.	\$225M	\$301M	\$309M	\$248M	\$259M Exceeded
The amount of foreign capital invested in B.C. ¹	\$70M or 30%	\$113M or 37%	\$93M or31 %	\$84M or 32%	\$108M or 42% Exceeded
B.C.'s share of Canada's total investment ²	12%	17%	15%	13%	19% Exceeded

Data Source: Thomson Reuters - www.canadavc.com

¹The appropriate level of foreign venture capital investment in B.C. was determined to be 30% of annual supply through consultation with stakeholders during the development of the Provincial Technology Strategy.

²Total value of venture capital investment in B.C. expressed as a percentage of Canadian venture capital dollars invested in B.C. (2005).

Discussion of Results

While 2008 was a challenging year for Canada overall – venture capital inflow plunged 40 per cent year to year to \$1.3 billion in 2008 from \$2.1 billion in 2007 – B.C. experienced a less severe decline of 18 per cent, and, as of December 31, 2008 B.C. accounted for 19 per cent of all venture capital invested into Canada. B.C. life science companies captured 26 per cent of overall national investment into that sector, clean technology companies 39 per cent.

Foreign venture capital firms contributed 42 per cent of B.C.'s overall investment inflow in 2008 – an indicator of their confidence in B.C.'s innovative technologies. B.C. technology companies were included in three of Canada's top five venture capital placements last year.

Goal 2: The most small business friendly jurisdiction in Canada

Objective 2.1: A business climate in which small business prospers

Strategies

- Provide an effective forum to hear directly from the small business community through the permanent Small Business Roundtable
- Implement solutions to address small business concerns and support small business start-up and growth
- Raise the profile of small businesses by celebrating their contribution to the provincial economy and communities
- Maintain and build partnerships with federal and municipal governments and key organizations to leverage resources to offer services, products and tools to entrepreneurs

Performance Results

Performance Measure 2: Availability of BizPaL to communities

Performance	2007 Baseline ¹	2007/08	2008/09	2008/09
Measure		Actual	Target	Actual
Availability of BizPaL to communities	2 of 157	25 of 157	75 of 157	75 of 157 ²
	1.2%	16%	48%	48%

Data Source: Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development; www.bizpal.ca/part_partners.shtml ¹ As of May 2007

² Three new local governments were incorporated in 2008/2009 increasing the total number of communities from 157 to 160 and changing the denominator of the baseline by 1.88%

Discussion of Results

This measure, identified in the October 2007 Action Plan for Small Business, reflects government's commitment to removing barriers to doing business in B.C. and supporting small business start-up and growth. The BizPaL online business information tool provides small businesses with a single point of access to quickly identify the federal, provincial and local government permits and licences required to start a business in a specific community streamlining the business start-up process, and saving entrepreneurs time and money.

The Ministry achieved its target in 2008/2009 and BizPaL availability grew from 25 to 75 of the province's 160 municipalities. BizPaL is first being made available to local governments (160) and then to regional districts (28). Implementation of BizPaL is a partnership between

municipalities, the province and the federal government. The number of communities in 2008/2009 increased by three to 160 changing the baseline denominator by almost 2 per cent.

Goal 3: A global leader in regulatory reform

Objective 3.1: A streamlined and simplified regulatory environment

Strategies

- Continue building capacity within the public service for regulatory reform
- Monitor and publicly report on the progress of regulatory reform across government. Reporting includes progress on reducing regulatory burden, and achievements to date to save individuals, small business and industry time and steps when accessing government services and complying with requirements.
- Work with other levels of government to advance regulatory reform to reduce costly duplication and encourage small business growth

Performance Results

Performance	2004/05	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2008/09
Measure	Baseline ¹	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual
Number of government-wide regulatory requirements	228,834	214,640	210,436	228,834	208,576 Exceeded

Performance Measure 3: Number of government-wide regulatory requirements

Data Source: Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development - Regulatory Reform Database

¹ June 2004 baseline, periodically adjusted to continuously improve the accuracy of the count going forward. An adjustment was made in December 2008.

Discussion of Results

The Ministry tracks the number of regulatory requirements imposed by ministries and agencies as an indication of the overall regulatory burden on British Columbians. Reducing the regulatory burden makes it easier and more efficient for individuals and businesses to deal with government and is key to B.C.'s economic competitiveness.

The target of a zero net increase over the results to June 2004 was exceeded. In the past year 1,860 requirements were reduced across government with a total reduction of 20,258 regulatory requirements since June 2004. As of March 31, 2009 there has been a 42 per cent reduction in regulatory requirements or 151,542 fewer regulations since the implementation of the Regulatory Reform Initiative in June 2001. These results have been achieved by championing a culture of regulatory reform across government, ensuring adherence to regulatory reform policy and

continuously improving our capacity to create a modern regulatory environment that encourages prosperity and innovation while continuing to protect public health, safety and the environment.

Ministry Response

Government has been highly successful in minimizing unnecessary involvement in the lives of British Columbians, attracting international attention for achieving our goals of reducing the regulatory burden by one-third. As of March 31, 2009 there has been an 8.85 per cent reduction in regulatory requirements over the target (zero net increase to the June 2004 baseline). While the absolute number of regulatory requirements increased year over year, the count is below the 2004 baseline. This is a significant achievement given the additional requirements added to the regulatory count for the Province's Climate Action legislation introduced in the summer of 2008.

The Ministry works collaboratively through partnerships across government to identify and reduce regulatory requirements and continues to champion the vision of Straight*forward* BC: regulation, clear & simple. The new vision of Straight*forward* BC recognizes that regulatory reform is not just about counting regulations; it is about transforming the way government does business. Straight*forward* BC strategies to improve and modernize B.C.'s regulatory framework have broadened to include: a leadership role in advancing the corporate agenda of innovation and continuous improvement and activities to address the regulatory challenges impeding the development and adoption of new clean technologies.

Resource Summary Table 2008-09

Core Business Areas	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Ор	Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Marketing, Investment, Trade and Economic Immigration	18,837	(1,252)	17,585	12,805	(4,780)
Enhancing Economic Development (including special account)	113,595	(94,310)	19,285	20,248	963
Olympic Games Secretariat	79,597	(79,597)	-	-	-
Technology, Research & Innovation	-	13,399	13,399	12,491	(908)
Small Business & Regulatory Reform	-	3,071	3,071	3,050	(21)
Executive and Support Services	13,689	(2,028)	11,661	15,175	3,514
Innovative Clean Energy Fund Special Account	-	17,400	17,400	2,977	(14,423)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual	-	-	-	(329)	(329)
Total	225,718	(143,317)	82,401	66,417	(15,984)
Full	-time Equival	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			(10)10 ()
Marketing, Investment, Trade and Economic Immigration	93	(29)	64	52	(12)
Enhancing Economic Development	54	(18)	36	32	(4)
Olympic Games Secretariat	39	(39)	-	-	-
Small Business & Regulatory Reform	-	18	18	26	8
Technology, Research & Innovation	-	15	15	12	(3)
Executive and Support Services	45	-	45	61	16
Innovative Clean Energy Fund Special Account	-	4	4	4	-
Total	231	(49)	182	187	5
Ministry Capital Expen	ditures (Cons	olidated Revenue F	und) (\$000)		
Marketing, Investment, Trade and Economic Immigration	40	1,006	1,046	1,046	-
Enhancing Economic Development (Economic Competitiveness)	50	-	50	-	(50)
Olympic Games Secretariat	216	(216)	-	-	-
Small Business & Regulatory Reform	-	-	-	-	-
Technology, Research & Innovation	-	-	-	-	-
Executive and Support Services	90	59	149	199	50
Innovative Clean Energy Fund Special Account	-	-	-	-	-
Total	396	849	1,245	1,245	-

Leading Edge Endowment Fund: Highlights of the Year

In 2008/09, LEEF announced five new chairs:

B.C. Leadership Chairs

- Hyperspectral Technology Development for Remote Sensing, University of Victoria, Dr. Benoit Rivard – July 2008
- Advanced Forest Products Manufacturing Technology, University of British Columbia, Dr. Phil Evans – December 2008
- Functional Cancer Imaging, University of British Columbia, Dr. Francois Bénard – January 2009

B.C. Regional Innovation Chairs

- Tourism and Sustainable Rural Development, Vancouver Island University, Dr. Nicole Vaugeois – July 2008
- Cattle Industry Sustainability, Thompson Rivers University, Dr. John Church July 2008

(\$ in thousands)	2007/08 Actual ¹	2008/09 Actual ²
REVENUE		
Grant Income 3	\$11,500	\$9,250
Interest	\$1,624	\$681
	\$13,124	\$9,931
EXPENSES		
LEEF Chairs	\$11,500	\$9,250
Operations	\$242	\$247
	\$11,742	\$9,497
EXCESS (Revenue over Expenses)	\$1,382	\$433
NET ASSETS(Beginning of year)	\$5,553	\$6,935
NET ASSETS (End of year)	\$6,935	\$7,369
FTEs	2	2

LEEF Financial Summary, 2008-09

Data Source: Leading Edge Endowment Fund audited financial statements and the Leading Edge Fund Society

1 Figures from the Leading Edge Endowment Fund audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2008

2 Figures provided by the Leading Edge Fund Society

3 Grant income is drawn from "deferred contributions" on hand & reported in the year a chair award is made

Annual Service Plan Report Appendices

Appendix A: Ministry Contact Information

Minister's Office Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development PO Box 9046 STN PROV GOVT Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2 Email: <u>EDMinister@gov.bc.ca</u>

Deputy Minister's Office Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development PO Box 9324 STN PROV GOVT Victoria, B.C. V8W 9N3

Appendix B: For Additional Information

Action Plan for Small Business: www.gov.bc.ca/sbr/attachments/action plan for small business.pdf

BizPaL: www.bizpal.ca/part_partners.shtml

BC Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement: www.tilma.ca

British Columbia Asia Pacific Initiative: www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev/down/asia_pacific_initiative_out.pdf

British Columbia Innovation Council: www.bcic.ca/

British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund: www.tted.gov.bc.ca/TRI/research/bckdf/Pages/default.aspx

British Columbia Progress Board: <u>www.bcprogressboard.com/</u>

Leading Edge Endowment Fund: <u>www.leefbc.ca/</u>

Premier's Technology Council: www.gov.bc.ca/premier/technology_council/

Small Business Roundtable: www.smallbusinessroundtable.ca/

Straightforward BC: www.straightforwardbc.gov.bc.ca/