

**Ministry of
Natural Gas Development
and Minister Responsible for Housing**

**2016/17
Annual Service Plan Report**



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Published by the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing

Minister's Message and Accountability Statement



During 2016/17, the Ministry continued its efforts to see the Province benefit fully from its vast natural gas resources, including the economic opportunity represented by liquefied natural gas (LNG) as well as increase the Province's pipeline infrastructure, expand upstream oil and gas potential and provide for B.C.'s housing needs. B.C.'s aspirations for a new LNG industry reached a historical milestone on November 4, 2016, when Woodfibre LNG announced their project had received board authorization to proceed. This represents \$1.6 billion in new investment and hundreds of jobs. During 2016/17, the Ministry continued to support approximately 20 LNG proposals with over 30 investment partners, providing the potential for a thriving, responsible and competitive LNG industry in B.C.

The Ministry continued to enhance the competitiveness of B.C.'s shale natural gas resource with royalty and infrastructure credit programs. The Clean Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program, launched August 19, 2016, was designed to attract new private-sector funding for clean technologies which will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions linked to the exploitation of oil and gas.

In January 2017, Government announced that the \$7.4 billion Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Expansion Project had met B.C.'s five conditions for considering support for heavy oil projects in B.C. The Province reached an unprecedented revenue-sharing agreement with Kinder Morgan for up to \$1 billion over 20 years.

Since 2006, the provincial housing strategy has provided policy guidance for the investment of more than \$3.5 billion in housing programs. In 2016, Government committed \$855 million to create 4,900 affordable rental housing units for low to moderate income households. The Province also invested \$50 million towards acquiring additional housing for people with mental health or substance use challenges. In January 2017, the Government began accepting applications for the new BC Home Owner Mortgage and Equity Partnership Program (BC HOME Partnership) to provide down payment assistance loans to first time homebuyers.

As of December 31, 2016, the Community Partnership Initiatives program has contributed to over 5,700 new units of affordable housing, which are accessible to low to moderate income households. Through the Non-Profit Asset Transfer Program, as of September 2016, the B.C. government has transferred ownership of 128 properties to qualified non-profit societies that operate social housing. In March 2016, the Government announced changes to the Home Inspector Licensing Regulation that took effect on September 1, 2016, strengthening regulations to better oversee B.C. home inspectors.

The *Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing 2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the *2016/17 - 2018/19 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ellis Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Honourable Ellis Ross
Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing
June 22, 2017

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Purpose of the Ministry

The purpose of the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing is twofold:

1. To guide responsible development and ensure maximum economic benefits to British Columbians from the Province's natural gas resources¹, new export markets related to interprovincial pipelines, oil projects and value-added natural gas products, and the Province's next new major industrial sector—that of liquefied natural gas (LNG); and
2. To provide British Columbians with access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing through policy and programs, technical codes and standards, and services for landlords and tenants.

The Ministry's stakeholders are the citizens of B.C. and their representatives at all levels of government, First Nations, community groups, non-profit societies, schools, service organizations, private sector companies, project proponents, and environmental and industry associations. Key to the Ministry's success is its ability to maintain strong, collaborative relationships with stakeholders, partner agencies and other levels of government. The Minister has an oversight role over two Crown Corporations, the [BC Housing Management Commission](#) and the [Oil and Gas Commission](#).

Strategic Direction and Context

Minister Coleman's [Mandate Letter](#) from Premier Christy Clark, dated July 30, 2015, included key deliverables relating to natural gas production, LNG and housing policy. The Government's strategic priority of a Strong Economy was directly supported by Ministry Goals one, two and three, while Goals four through six supported the strategic priority of a Secure Tomorrow. The Ministry supported the direction in the [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#) for an accountable and cost conscious culture and its direction to reinvigorate government's commitment to open government.

Appendix C provides a report on the specific deliverables in the Letter. Key challenges facing the Ministry in 2016/17 included a protracted slump in world energy prices which delayed the development of some proposed LNG projects, impacting the Ministry's performance on measures one and two. During 2016/17, the Ministry continued to focus on the initiatives outlined in British Columbia's [LNG Strategy](#) and its accompanying [Natural Gas Strategy](#). Production levels of marketable natural gas were up slightly in the B.C. portion of the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin during 2016/17. Marketable natural gas production was an estimated 44.5 billion cubic metres.

Demand for homes in B.C. was high during 2016/17, prompting the Ministry to develop a number of measures to create new housing supply. In July 2016, the Province, through the Ministry of Finance, created a new Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account for investments in affordable housing initiatives, including the construction of rental housing. Through BC Housing's Community Partnerships Initiatives program, affordable housing options were increased by offering low-cost development financing for affordable housing developments. The Ministry received over 21,000 residential tenancy applications for dispute resolution in 2016 and issued over 18,500 decisions, slightly down from last fiscal year. Hearing wait times were within the Ministry's service standards.

¹ While the Ministry's mandate is focused on natural gas, the primary hydrocarbon currently produced in British Columbia, it also includes other hydrocarbons produced in British Columbia, such as natural gas liquids and crude oil.

Report on Performance

Minister Coleman's July 2015 Mandate Letter contained direction from the Premier to meet 13 policy objectives. Appendix C lists these objectives and provides a report on how each was met.

The Ministry's 2016/17 Goals supported the [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#) by focusing on outcomes for citizens and effective communication. During 2016/17, quarterly Executive meetings took place between the Ministry and the Oil and Gas Commission (OGC). Bi-weekly meetings between the Deputy Minister (who is also the Board Chair) and the Commissioner also took place, and the Chair had regular meetings with the Minister. Similar engagement occurred with the BC Housing Management Commission, where the Minister and CEO had regular briefings throughout the year.

During 2016/17, the OGC provided multiple training sessions for industry as it introduced a new Application Management System. This will streamline oil and gas applications and exemplifies the Taxpayer Accountability Principle of service.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

The Ministry's Goals directly supported the *BC Jobs Plan*, the Minister's July 2015 mandate letter and Government's strategic priorities. Goal one focused on job creation and economic growth as well as mandate letter item five to encourage First Nations participation in the LNG opportunity. Goal two supported job creation, economic growth and mandate letter items three and seven. Goal three supported economic growth and mandate letter item eight for meeting B.C.'s Five Conditions for considering support for heavy oil projects in B.C. Goals four through six supported safe communities under the strategic priority of a secure tomorrow and mandate letter items ten through thirteen.

Goal 1: A globally competitive liquefied natural gas export industry in B.C. that supports a prosperous economy and benefits all British Columbians.

Objective 1.1: B.C. is recognized as a globally competitive jurisdiction for LNG investment.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Implement a competitive fiscal and policy framework that supports LNG investment in B.C.;
- Work with LNG project proponents to secure signed Project Development Agreements that will lead to financially secure arrangements for both LNG developers and taxpayers;
- Work with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) and the federal government to develop specific First Nations negotiation mandates along the pipeline corridors, LNG plant locations and marine traffic routes, in order to facilitate rapid investment in LNG facilities;
- Work with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to ensure that Crown land disposition processes support LNG investment and the development of linear infrastructure, including pipelines, roads and electricity required for new LNG facilities;
- Work closely with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and the federal government where appropriate, to develop and implement programs that address skills gaps and meet the labour needs of the LNG and natural gas sectors;

- Work with BC Hydro to ensure an adequate supply of clean, affordable electricity is available from the grid to support new investments in LNG, and in electrification opportunities to support upstream natural gas and oil exploration and development; and
- Build global investor awareness through inbound and outbound international trade missions and the LNG in BC International Conference.

Performance Measure 1: LNG Power Supply Agreements.

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Cumulative number of power supply agreements reached with proponents for LNG compression and/or ancillary power requirements	1	2	3	2	4	5

Data Source: Ministry of Natural Gas Development internal tracking documents.

Discussion

Electricity supply and load interconnection agreements are a key milestone before final investment decisions (FIDs) on LNG projects are made. The number of power supply agreements for LNG facilities reached is a key measure of provincial progress towards the establishment of a competitive LNG export industry in B.C. The Ministry expected to conclude one new electricity supply and load interconnection agreement in each of 2015/16 and 2016/17, resulting in a cumulative total of 2 and 3 agreements in those years. The industry is in its early stages, therefore, no benchmark is available for this performance measure. The target of one new power supply agreement was met in 2015/16 but not met in 2016/17 due to the global downturn in the energy marketplace, which has created economic challenges for the global natural gas sector.

Performance Measure 2: Project Development Agreements.

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Cumulative number of Project Development Agreements completed	1	1	5	1	3	4

Data Source: Ministry of Natural Gas Development internal tracking documents.

Discussion

The Province enters into Project Development Agreement (PDA) negotiations with project proponents in order to provide cost certainty for LNG development. These agreements provide proponents with long-term certainty with respect to the fiscal and policy framework that will apply to their projects once they have reached an FID and proceed with construction, thus supporting Goal one. The target of five PDAs was not met in 2016/17 due to a protracted slump in world energy prices, which has delayed expected FIDs for some proposed LNG projects.

Objective 1.2: A robust regulatory framework that supports environmentally and socially responsible LNG development in B.C.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Continue to work with the Environmental Assessment Office, the OGC and other provincial, federal and municipal regulators, to ensure streamlined, integrated and robust regulatory and permitting processes;
- In consultation with the Climate Action Secretariat and the federal government, implement world-leading GHG emissions benchmarks that ensure British Columbia's LNG facilities are the cleanest in the world, while providing strong incentives for the use of clean energy from the BC Hydro grid;
- Work with the Ministry of Environment and, in consultation with the federal government, implement air emission standards and interim ambient air quality objectives that protect health, are consistent with leading jurisdictions and encourage clean LNG facilities;
- Work with First Nations, communities and the federal government to ensure best practices are in place to guide marine traffic and the safe shipment of LNG to export markets; and
- Work with the federal government and the Port of Prince Rupert to ensure that the regulation of LNG facilities and related pipeline projects on federal lands in the Port of Prince Rupert occurs in substantially the same manner as other projects in the Province.

Objective 1.3: British Columbians understand and benefit from the economic and social opportunities of responsible energy development in B.C.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Work with the Ministry of Finance to prepare legislation to enact B.C.'s Prosperity Fund for introduction in the Spring 2017 Legislative session;
- Engage with British Columbians regarding the LNG opportunity through a variety of outreach activities, such as face-to-face energy education forums and print and digital media;
- Work with the MARR and B.C. First Nations to ensure they understand and are able to participate in the economic development opportunities available through the creation of a new LNG industry in the Province; and
- Build relationships and work collaboratively with key communities and stakeholders to prepare for the emerging economic and social opportunities created by a new LNG industry.

Goal 2: A competitive upstream natural gas sector² that creates jobs, revenue and economic growth.

Objective 2.1: B.C.’s upstream sector is attractive for investment and B.C.’s natural gas is the input of choice for LNG development.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Continuously improve geological and resource assessments for natural gas and oil, through collaboration with industry, industry associations, and academic and research institutes;
- Continue to support the development of upstream infrastructure;
- Continue to monitor and adapt British Columbia’s natural gas and oil fiscal and regulatory frameworks to ensure they are competitive; and
- Improve the competitiveness of B.C.’s upstream sector by providing leadership, information and new policies, regulations and programs, and modernizing tenure legislation.

Objective 2.2: Optimal revenue from the development of B.C.’s upstream natural gas and oil resources.³

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Continue to hold monthly Crown natural gas and oil rights sales;
- Optimize royalty programs to create a competitive environment and generate Crown revenue; and
- Maximize the amount of B.C.’s natural gas that feeds the LNG export plants to ensure B.C. receives maximum value for its natural gas resource.

Performance Measure 3: Relative annual investment in natural gas and oil exploration and development, B.C. as % of Canada.

Performance Measure	2012/13 Baseline Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016 Estimate	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Relative annual investment in natural gas and oil exploration and development, B.C. as % of Canada ¹	13.1%	16.2%	14.6%	19%	16.6%	16.8%

¹Data Source: Ministry of Natural Gas Development, based on Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers data for actuals and estimated for previous years. All data is only available and provided by calendar year.

² The upstream sector includes searching for potential underground natural gas and oil, disposition of the rights to develop the underground resource, drilling of exploratory wells, and subsequently drilling and operating the producing wells.

³ Optimal revenue is defined as the fairest and best return that can be collected by the Crown for the use of publicly owned resources under prevailing economic, environmental and social conditions.

Discussion

Investment in upstream natural gas and oil exploration and development consists of industry expenditures on resource rights acquisition, geophysical and geological surveys, exploration and production wells, field equipment (such as gathering pipelines) and processing plants. Based on commodity price forecasts and LNG-related upstream activity, the Ministry expects a gradual increase in relative annual upstream investment, which is expected to accelerate once LNG exports begin. The baseline of relative upstream investment in B.C. as a percentage of Canada is based on actual investment in 2012. As of May 2017, the Ministry anticipated that it would exceed the target with 19 percent of non-oil sands related oil and gas investment in 2016 occurring in B.C. The final number will only be available from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers in November 2017.

Objective 2.3: Responsible upstream natural gas and oil development.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Work with the Ministry of Finance to prepare recommendations on the creation of a new clean infrastructure credit program;
- With other government agencies, continue to study the effects of natural gas and oil development on environmental and social values;
- Complete the Carbon Capture and Storage regulatory framework and work with industry to identify carbon sequestration projects and opportunities for carbon dioxide use in enhanced oil recovery;
- Work with the OGC to continue to ensure that the use of hydraulic fracturing in natural gas and oil extraction meets the highest standards in the world;
- Develop and implement new legislation, regulations and programs that support the responsible development and use of natural gas and oil resources; and
- Work with the OGC and other provincial ministries to respond to increasing economic activity by delivering sound, timely decisions on natural gas and oil, LNG, and related water, Crown land and other permits, authorizations and tenures.

Objective 2.4: Engaged stakeholders, communities and First Nations working collaboratively in Northeast B.C.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Engage with local governments regarding upstream development activities in northeast B.C.;
- Continue to collaborate with other ministries, agencies and Crown corporations to promote greater public understanding of the exploration and development of natural gas and oil resources;
- Foster working relationships among industry, the public, First Nations and landowners by clarifying and simplifying natural gas and oil resource exploration and development management processes, enhancing dispute resolution methods, and offering more support and information;
- Support the development and continuous improvement of Strategic Engagement Agreements, other consultation agreements, and Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations; and

- Continue to work collaboratively with the MARR to build effective business development relations with First Nations.

Goal 3: Increased responsible export of energy resources, new markets opened and related infrastructure projects that benefit British Columbians.

Objective 3.1: A common oil and gas vision for B.C. and Alberta related to exports and opening new markets.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Act as the main Government liaison with Alberta regarding oil;
- Develop recommendations and action plans that benefit B.C.;
- Support the Major Investment Office in discussions with potential energy project investors and continue to explore and develop B.C.-based opportunities for value added natural gas developments; and
- Continue to work closely with the OGC.

Objective 3.2: B.C.'s "five requirements" for heavy oil pipelines and related infrastructure are addressed.⁴

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Work collaboratively with other provincial and federal government agencies to address the "five requirements" and the roles that each agency will play;
- Act as the Government's point of contact and key liaison on proposed interprovincial oil transmission pipelines to B.C.'s coast;
- Work with the Ministry of Environment to participate in the federal environmental review of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion and ensure that the project meets our Five Requirements for considering support for heavy oil projects in B.C.; and
- Continue to lead the B.C. Oil and Gas Major Projects Team as the forum for ensuring timely access to information and knowledge sharing amongst government officials and coordinating provincial reviews of National Energy Board regulated projects.

⁴ The "five requirements" are contained in the Province's policy paper ["Requirements for B.C. to Consider Support for Heavy Oil Pipelines"](#).

Goal 4: Healthy buildings, strong communities.

Objective 4.1: Clear, effective and balanced building and safety standards and governance frameworks.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Support an effective governance framework for the building regulatory system through continued implementation of B.C.’s new *Building Act*;
- Provide provincial guidance and expert evaluation of innovative building solutions;
- Review the *Safety Standards Act* to provide continued effective governance framework for technical systems, equipment and industries;
- Lead sector specific engagement and plan for implementation of B.C.’s proposed Climate Leadership Plan; and
- Implement regulatory changes that will enable Consumer Protection BC to oversee home inspectors in British Columbia.

Goal 5: Stable housing, increased confidence.

Objective 5.1: Modern, affordable and accessible services that promote housing stability for renters, landlords and strata owners.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Reduce red tape by streamlining and simplifying processes and regulatory requirements for tenants and landlords;
- Continue to transform Residential Tenancy Branch processes to enhance services and meet growing and evolving demand; and
- Implement an accessible, cost-effective dispute resolution system for strata property owners.

Performance Measure 4: Residential tenancy dispute resolution requests.

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of residential tenancy dispute resolution requests per 1,000 B.C. adult population (over age 19)	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6

Data Source: Targets for this measure are derived from records of dispute resolution requests to the Ministry’s Residential Tenancy Branch and BCStats population projection data. The measure includes only those British Columbians over age 19 because of the age group categories used by BCStats.

Discussion

This measure reflects the number of applications received for formal dispute resolution services. A reduction in the number of requests for dispute resolution over time is expected to result from service improvements that include increasing access to information and resources for landlords and tenants, ensuring that enquiries and requests are addressed in a timely manner and supporting the prevention and

early resolution of disputes between landlords and tenants. About one-third of all B.C. households are rental households. As the B.C. population increases every year, so too does the number of tenancies. Tying the number of dispute resolution requests to the adult population provides a comparable measure across fiscal years. The Ministry slightly exceeded the target set for 2016/17.

Goal 6: Committed partnerships, greater choice.

Objective 6.1: Strategic partnerships that increase housing options, decrease costs and promote effective, coordinated programs for all British Columbians.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective:

- Continue to implement Housing Matters, the provincial housing strategy, to ensure citizens are able to find housing that meets their needs across British Columbia;
- Facilitate the redevelopment and renovation of existing social housing;
- Review the results of the community consultation and visioning process on future uses of the Riverview Lands and make recommendations on potential options;
- Partner with the non-profit sector, local governments and developers to leverage innovative models for building, maintaining and funding social housing, and housing the homeless in private rentals;
- Facilitate partnerships with, and provide education to, local government and community agencies to encourage infill and higher-density development; and
- Collaborate with our provincial, territorial and federal partners to develop long-term solutions to issues of affordable housing in Canada.

Performance Measure 5: Number of households benefiting from affordable housing programs.

Performance Measure	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Number of households that benefit from provincial affordable housing programs	102,500	104,025	104,000	105,140	117,000	132,000

Data Source: BC Housing total households served.

Discussion

This measures the total number of households that benefit from provincial affordable housing programs each year. The targets have been set based on BC Housing’s estimates. Programs include:

- first time home buyers using the B.C. HOME Partnership program;
- affordable housing and rent supplements for low and moderate income renters;
- shelters and housing with supports for those who are homeless;
- housing that meets the cultural needs of Aboriginal peoples;
- transition housing and supports for women and children fleeing violence; and
- assisted living and wheelchair accessible apartments for seniors and people with disabilities.

The Ministry slightly exceeded the target set for 2016/17.

Financial Report

Financial Report Summary Table

	2016/17 Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance ⁴
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Upstream Development ³	12,546	0	12,546	10,821	(1,725)
Liquefied Natural Gas ³	6,341	0	6,341	3,187	(3,154)
Oil and Strategic Initiatives.....	1,015	0	1,015	825	(190)
Executive and Support Services ³	4,316	0	4,316	6,165	1,849
Housing.....	414,598	1,535	416,133	416,133	0
Housing Endowment Fund	14,104	0	14,104	14,104	0
Sub-Total	452,920	1,535	454,455	451,235	(3,220)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ²	0	0	0	(15)	(15)
Total	452,920	1,535	454,455	451,220	(3,235)
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)					
Housing.....	20,650	0	20,650	20,650	0
Total	20,650	0	20,650	20,650	0
Capital Plan (\$000)²					
Executive and Support Services	1	0	1	0	(1)
Total	1	0	1	0	(1)
Other Financing Transactions (\$000)⁵					
Oil and Gas Commission Receipts.....	(32,617)	0	(32,617)	(35,571)	(2,954)
Oil and Gas Commission Disbursements.....	32,617	0	32,617	35,571	2,954
Net Cash Source (Requirements)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	(32,617)	0	(32,617)	(35,571)	(2,954)
Total Disbursements	32,617	0	32,617	35,571	2,954
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	0	0	0	0	0

¹ “Other Authorizations” include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the “estimated amount” under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

² The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.015 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

³ The ministry expected underspending in the Upstream Development and Liquefied Natural Gas Divisions and the Ministry funds corporate costs (e.g. legal) through Executive & Support Services.

⁴ “Variance” represents “Actual” minus “Total Estimated”. If the Actual is greater than the Total Estimated, the Variance will be displayed as a positive number.

⁵ Levies include OSRF revenues and production levies but not Pipeline revenues or fees from oil and gas applications. Reported information may differ from Oil and Gas Commission due to recognition differences.

Appendix A – Contact Information and Hyperlink

Ministry Contact Information

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Appendix B – List of Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions

The Ministry is responsible for the following agencies, boards and commissions:

[BC Housing Management Commission](#)

[Provincial Rental Housing Corporation](#)

[Oil and Gas Commission](#)

[Surface Rights Board](#)

[Homeowner Protection Office](#)

[Safety Authority of BC](#)

Appendix C – Minister’s Mandate and Actions Summary

In the Premier’s Mandate Letter dated July 30, 2015, the Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing received direction on strategic priorities for the 2016/17 fiscal year. These priorities and the Ministry’s resulting actions are summarized below:

Mandate Letter Direction	Ministry’s Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the Province of British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry met its fiscal 2016/17 budget.
2. Work with LNG project proponents to secure signed Project Development Agreements that will lead to financially secure arrangements for both LNG developers and taxpayers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, the Ministry has secured one PDA. The target of five PDAs was not met in 2016/17 due to a protracted slump in world energy prices.
3. As part of the Jobs Plan Update, update B.C.’s Natural Gas Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry staff worked on a value-added component to expand on B.C.’s Natural Gas Strategy.
4. Working with the Ministry of Finance, prepare legislation to enact B.C.’s Prosperity Fund for introduction in the Spring 2017 Legislative session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a part of <i>Budget Measures and Implementation Act, 2016</i>, the Province established the B.C. Prosperity Fund. This included an inaugural commitment of \$100 million. With the passing of this Bill (Bill 10) on March 10, 2016, the Prosperity Fund was officially enacted; and The Revenue/Expenditure model was refreshed by March 15, 2017. The model was developed through collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and includes data sets from the Ministry of Natural Gas Development, the OGC and BC Hydro.
5. Working with the MARR to ensure B.C. First Nations are able to participate in the economic development opportunities available through the creation of a new LNG industry in the Province.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province and Canada have jointly provided \$500,000 in funding to the First Nations LNG Alliance (FNLNGA), of which \$287,000 came from B.C. (through the MARR); and The FNLGA acts as an advocate for First Nations with respect to LNG development issues. A key function of the FNLNGA, in collaboration with the Province, is providing education and information to First Nations to assist them in making decisions with respect to LNG projects (including pipelines) that impact their territories.
6. Successfully host the third annual LNG conference in Fall 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province hosted the 2015 International LNG in B.C. Conference in October 2015, which brought together over 3,000 participants, promoting B.C.’s LNG opportunity to industry representatives from around the world. The event also included a large Youth Expo, helping to inform the next generation of workers on the career paths available to them in the LNG industry.
7. Work with Finance to make recommendations to Cabinet on the creation of a new clean infrastructure credit program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A one-year pilot Clean Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program (CIRCP) was approved and fully delivered. The CIRCP focused on projects to reduce upstream natural gas and petroleum vented and fugitive methane emissions.

Mandate Letter Direction	Ministry's Action
8. Work with the Ministry of Environment to participate in the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion federal environmental review and ensure that the project meets our five conditions for considering support for heavy oil projects in B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 11, 2017, Government announced that Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Expansion Project had met the Five Conditions.
9. Successfully conclude the elimination of routine natural gas flaring by 2016 as committed in the BC Energy Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The OGC 2011 Flaring, Venting and Incineration Summary reported that the BC Energy Plan goal to eliminate all routine flaring by 2016 was met in 2010.
10. Implement regulatory changes that will enable Consumer Protection BC to oversee home inspectors in British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In March of 2016, the B.C. Government announced changes to the Home Inspector Licensing Regulation that took effect on September 1, 2016. Strengthened regulations enable Consumer Protection BC to better oversee home inspectors in British Columbia and better protect consumers.
11. Review the results of the community consultation on future uses of the Riverview Lands and make recommendations to Cabinet on potential options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, the Province began a process to determine the future of the Riverview Lands. BC Housing is working in consultation with various groups to renew the lands; The process is guided by "A Vision for Renewing Riverview," which was released in December 2015 following two years of consultation; and The renewal has reached the Master Plan phase, the creation of a plan to guide the land use on the site.
12. Review the <i>Residential Tenancy Act</i> , reduce red tape for tenants and make improvements where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved service delivery by completing the knowledge engineering of the landlord and tenant streams for the Solution Explorer on October 28, 2016, a web-based service that makes it easier for landlords and tenants to access dispute resolution services; and On December 6, 2016, the Ministry released the Solution Explorer.
13. Continue to implement Housing Matters, our provincial housing strategy, to ensure citizens are able to find housing that meets their needs across British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BC HOME Partnership program was implemented in January 2017 to assist first-home buyers enter the housing market; and \$905 million was committed to create additional affordable rental housing units.