### **BC Infrastructure Benefits**

# 2025/26 - 2027/28 **Service Plan**

**March 2025** 







For more information on BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. contact:

# Suite 1050 – 89 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 0N8 1-888-567-2242 info@bcib.ca

Or visit our website at www.bcib.ca

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## Board Chair's Accountability Statement



The 2025/26 – 2027/28 BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. Service Plan was prepared under the Board's direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. This plan is consistent with government's strategic priorities and fiscal plan. The Board is accountable for the contents of this plan and is responsible for the validity and reliability of the information presented.

All significant assumptions, policy decisions, events and identified risks, as of February 2025, have been considered in preparing the plan. The performance measures presented are consistent with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, BC Infrastructure Benefits' mandate and goals, and focus on aspects critical to the organization's

performance. The targets in this plan have been determined based on an assessment of BC Infrastructure Benefits' operating environment, forecast conditions, risk assessment and past performance.

Signed on behalf of the Board by:

**David Miller** 

Board Chair, BC Infrastructure Benefits

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February 13, 2025

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### **Strategic Direction**

In 2025/26, public sector organizations will continue to prioritize delivering the services and infrastructure needed for people to build good lives in strong communities.

To support this objective public sector organizations will support Government's focus on growing the economy, responding to the threat of tariffs, creating good paying jobs, improving affordability, strengthening health care and education, and making communities safer.

Public sector organizations will also continue to work as directed to support the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

This 2025/26 service plan outlines how BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. (BCIB) will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the <u>most recent BCIB Mandate</u> Letter.

BCIB is the construction employer on select public infrastructure projects that apply the Community Benefits Agreement, a collective agreement between the Province of British Columbia and 19 Affiliated Unions. As an employer, BCIB offers good, secure, jobs to British Columbians. These jobs pay wages that support families, contribute to local community economies, and help diversify and grow the skilled trades our province needs today and tomorrow.

# Purpose of the Organization and Alignment with Government Priorities

BCIB is a provincial Crown corporation incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* and directly accountable to the Minister of Infrastructure. This Service Plan is aligned with the direction provided in <u>BCIB's Mandate Letter</u>.

BCIB supports government's priorities by providing skilled trades workers to select public infrastructure projects. By prioritizing locals, underrepresented workers and apprentices, BCIB helps mitigate the skilled trades labour shortage by diversifying and growing the workforce. This helps contractors with a cost-effective and dependable source of labour so they can focus on building. For the province, it helps build world class infrastructure with British Columbians while training the next generation of workers.

BCIB creates good careers for British Columbians and 97% of its workers call this province home with the remaining 3% coming from other provinces in Canada. BCIB will continue to pay its workers competitive wages and benefits. Because BCIB prioritizes local hiring, wages will be spent in British Columbia and will flow into local economies. This supports economic growth and affordability in our province.

BCIB provides careers for Indigenous tradespeople and positively impacts onsite culture through its Respectful Onsite Initiative. BCIB's Respectful Onsite Initiative training program

includes two components: History Matters, Indigenous Cultural Competency training and Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training. These training programs promote a safe and respectful worksite and safer communities. With the support and participation of government project owners and contractors, BCIB employees will continue to participate in this training.

The Respectful Onsite Initiative educates participants about the history of the *Indian Act* and its impact on Indigenous peoples. Local First Nations' Knowledge Sharers help ground History Matters training in the territories where projects are being built and where crews are working. This supports the Province's priority of advancing reconciliation and aligns with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

BCIB works with 19 Affiliated Unions known as the Allied Infrastructure and Related Construction Council, (AIRCC)¹. By working with the Affiliated Unions, contractors and project owners, BCIB prioritizes hiring local and helps grow the next generation of construction workers needed in this province through apprenticeship opportunities. Apprenticeships maximize access to good-paying jobs on major infrastructure projects, which is important because apprenticeships provide tradespeople a qualified certification, such as Red Seal². Red Seal certification is the highest level of certification an apprentice can achieve, allowing tradespeople to earn at their highest potential, which positively contributes to affordability and local economies. BCIB provides apprenticeship opportunities on each project. By doing so, BCIB will continue to help secure the province's legacy of certified skilled trades workers, allowing for those starting out their careers to choose a stable career path and future job opportunities.

When an applicant does not meet the qualifications for a skilled trades role and is interested, BCIB will connect them to training and upskilling programs so they can become job ready. Candidates who choose to undertake upskilling opportunities are better equipped to receive work in the future.

### **Operating Environment**

The demand for skilled trades workers across the construction industry is creating pressures for companies and projects. BCIB diversifies and grows the construction workforce in local communities across the province to support future workers and the industry.

Local workforce is key to infrastructure projects and the economic and social well being of communities. The vast majority of BCIB employees on projects are British Columbian, and 90% are local to projects<sup>3</sup>. Because BCIB is active in sourcing local and underrepresented skilled workers, it expects this high number of local employees to continue over the service planning period. BCIB has increased the corresponding performance measure target.

Apprentices and trainees are the future skilled trades workforce. BCIB's vertical infrastructure projects (hospitals, education facilities and SkyTrain stations) employ trades with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The AIRCC 19 Affiliated Unions will be referred to after this point as "Affiliated Unions".

 $<sup>^2\,\</sup>underline{\text{Red Seal certification}}\,\text{is offered in 39 construction trades and is recognized throughout Canada}.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A local worker is defined as living within 100km of a project.

apprenticeship opportunities. The Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project, the new Broadway Subway Project, including stations, and Vancouver Community College's Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation, are under construction and creating opportunities to train and mobilize trades with apprenticeship programs such as bricklayers, electricians, pipefitters, glaziers, and painters.

BCIB works with contractors ahead of construction to forecast the number of workers needed. Project construction schedules and trades requirements will continue to drive BCIB's operations and recruitment, and BCIB scales its operations accordingly.

Workers across all industries deserve safe and respectful workplaces. Construction is no different, and culture change on jobsites is an increasingly important factor in recruiting and retaining new workers. As more organizations are recognizing the importance of reconciliation and encouraging safe and respectful workplaces, BCIB also offers ROI to other companies.

To align with CleanBC targets and the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, SkillPlan developed *Building It Green* training for BCIB workers. This new training helps create awareness of strategies and methods to improve the industry's impact on the environment, with a goal to successfully deliver low-carbon infrastructure projects.

## Performance Planning

# Goal 1: Mobilize and grow a safe, diverse, skilled workforce that represents the communities where Community Benefits Agreement projects are built.

BCIB's mandate is to grow and diversify the skilled trades workforce in British Columbia. Qualified Indigenous peoples, locals, and workers traditionally underrepresented in the construction trades are among the first hired. This goal is supported by objectives and performance measures that track BCIB's progress in creating opportunities for these underrepresented groups.

# Objective 1.1: Increase the local participation in the skilled trades workforce on Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects

An objective of the Community Benefits Agreement is to ensure locals have full and fair opportunities to participate<sup>4</sup> in the infrastructure projects being built in their communities. Locals receive priority opportunities to work and build their careers on Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Use established local recruitment channels and community networks to target qualified and underrepresented workers close to Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects.
- Partner with communities, local governments and Indigenous Skills and Employment Program to support local recruitment initiatives with tailored and project-specific job postings, information sessions and social media campaigns.
- Host local information sessions and attend job fairs in communities local to Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects to promote the advantages of working for BCIB and share stories and experiences of BCIB employees.

#### **Discussion**

Locals close to Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects receive Priority Hiring consideration to support the development of skilled trades capacity in communities close to the jobsites. BCIB works with contractors to hire skilled tradespeople who live within 100km of a project. By employing local workers, the benefits of these projects remain within the communities where they are built. By reporting on the percentage of total

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 1.100 (d) and (k).

project hours worked by local hires, BCIB shows its performance against this Community Benefits Agreement commitment.

#### Objective 1.2: Increase the diversity of the trades workforce.

Indigenous peoples, women, 2SLGBTQ+ workers and other equity-seeking groups are underrepresented in the skilled trades. Targeting underrepresented workers for career opportunities in construction will help introduce new, diverse workers to the industry and grow the total skilled trades workforce in the province.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Recruit women, people with disabilities and other traditionally underrepresented groups for work on Community Benefits Agreement Community Benefits Agreement projects in partnerships with Indigenous communities and other support organizations.
- Continue to offer meaningful career opportunities for equally qualified workers through a continuous and equitable hiring process (Priority Hiring), where Indigenous peoples, locals, and underrepresented workers are among the first hired.
- Conduct Indigenous engagement with First Nations near projects, including First Nations leadership, in partnership with project owners and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.
- Partner with Indigenous Skills, Employment and Training Societies (ISETS) to share workforce projections, identify key trades and apprenticeship opportunities, support existing and planned programming and explore joint initiatives with the Affiliated Unions.
- Work with local educational organizations, union partners and WorkBC centres to offer specialized trades training programs and courses that focus on equity seeking and underrepresented workers.

#### **Discussion**

BCIB uses Priority Hiring to provide career opportunities, apprenticeships, and trainee positions on a priority basis to Indigenous peoples, women, locals, and others traditionally underrepresented in construction<sup>5</sup>. This process is continuous through the construction schedule and across all trades on a project, helping qualified workers in these groups get hired first. This helps to grow and diversify the workforce employed on projects and is the reason BCIB is exceeding industry averages for women and Indigenous workers.

Measuring and reporting on the total project hours worked by Indigenous peoples and equity groups indicates how effective BCIB is at implementing the Community Benefits

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 9.202 and Community Benefits Agreement objectives Article 1.100 (k) and (n).

Agreement's Community Benefits Agreement Priority Hiring provisions and employing a workforce that is reflective of B.C. communities.

# Objective 1.3: Increase apprenticeship and trainee opportunities to facilitate journey completion and achievement of qualifications.

Growing the skilled trades workforce through apprenticeships and trainee opportunities is a priority of BCIB and the Affiliated Unions<sup>6</sup>. As workers retire, training the next generation of workers is critical to growing the workforce in the province.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Work directly with contractors to actively monitor and promote the inclusion of apprentices and trainees into each Contractor Employee Request<sup>7</sup> while ensuring the appropriate level of supervision and safety on the site.
- Work in partnership with contractors, training institutes and the Affiliated Unions to create customized training initiatives based on long term labour forecast with a focus on diversifying the workforce and placing graduates on projects.
- Work with SkilledTradesBC and SkillPlan<sup>8</sup> to connect apprentices and trainees with education and training supports provided by contractors, the Affiliated Unions and training institutions.

#### **Discussion**

Supporting workers to achieve certification is a key tool for growing the skilled trades workforce. BCIB measures progress towards this objective by tracking hours worked by trainees and apprentices and the ratio of apprenticeship hours to journeyperson hours. A network of projects helps BCIB to rehire apprentices and track their journey to help them complete their training.

Apprentices in regulated trades (e.g., Carpenters, Ironworkers, Electricians) work towards their journeyperson or Red Seal Certification. Nonregulated trades (e.g., Operating Engineers, Teamsters) have trainee programs to help workers achieve similar qualification. Certification paves the way for professional recognition and consistent employment opportunities and ultimately attracts more people to the trades.

## Objective 1.4: Foster a jobsite culture that is inclusive and respectful for a diverse workforce.

Equity, diversity and inclusion are core BCIB values. BCIB sees these values as competitive advantages for recruiting construction talent. In today's tight labour market, workers seek out progressive employers and environments. Proactively fostering a respectful work culture helps BCIB recruit the workforce needed to build B.C.'s infrastructure. To help improve jobsite

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 1.100 (j), (k) and (m).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The method used by contractors with a signed agreement with BCIB to submit labour requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 13.205.

culture in the sector, the Community Benefits Agreement includes requirements that training be delivered to all workers onsite<sup>9</sup>.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Provide BCIB's Respectful Onsite Initiative suite of training programs to all BCIB corporate and project skilled workers.
- Include Indigenous Knowledge Sharers or Elders in Respectful Onsite Initiative training sessions so that local history, knowledge, and customs are shared firsthand with BCIB workers.
- Train and certify all BCIB corporate staff in the government's gender-based analysis (GBA+) to inform policies and procedures.
- Ensure anti-bullying and anti-harassment priorities have support and buy-in from forepersons and contractors so BCIB employees have access to a safe and respectful worksite.

#### **Discussion**

BCIB's Respectful Onsite Initiative training supports the development of a safe and respectful jobsite culture. It includes *History Matters* (Indigenous Cultural Competency) and Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training. The Respectful Onsite Initiative provides participants with knowledge and tools to work as part of a team to create welcoming and respectful jobsites. Local First Nations Knowledge Sharers/Keepers impart learnings and teachings to participants, which is important in building a foundation for reconciliation. With the support and participation of government project owners and contractors, all BCIB employees are required to participate in this training.

Reporting on the percentage of employees who have completed BCIB's Respectful Onsite Initiative demonstrates BCIB's progress against the Community Benefits Agreement objective and requirement of creating a jobsite culture that is inclusive and respectful of a diverse workforce<sup>10</sup>. It is a comprehensive approach to supporting workers and the foundation of recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce.

#### **Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
1.1 Percentage of total project hours worked by local hires.	90%	65-85%	65-85%	65-85%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 9.205.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 9.205.

#### **Discussion**

Tracking hours worked by local hires shows BCIB's progress towards developing the local workforce. A local resident is generally defined as someone living within 100km of the project. This provides priority access for those living closest to the projects and helps increase local skills capacity.

Over the last five years BCIB has consistently exceeded its target on this performance measure. It has adjusted its future targets accordingly. Targets for local hires have been based on BCIB's work with contractors and their expectations of locally available workers. For example, the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project anticipated local workforce availability at the low end of the target range, 45%. BCIB's outreach and recruitment work has attracted a workforce made of more than 85% locals on that project.

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
1.2 Percentage of total project hours worked by Indigenous peoples and equity groups. 1	30%	25%	25%	25%

Data source: BCIB Employee payroll data

#### **Discussion**

BCIB measures and reports on the total project hours worked by Indigenous peoples and equity groups to track the diversity of its skilled trades workforce and its progress against the Community Benefits Agreement's diversity objectives.

BCIB applicants and employees can confidentially self-identify if they are members of a traditionally underrepresented group in construction<sup>11</sup>. BCIB uses this data to track project hours worked by those groups. The breakdown of this data is available in BCIB's annual <u>Building Opportunity Here report</u>.

BCIB has set a target of 25% of total project hours worked by underrepresented groups for future years. This target is based on performance in BCIB's early years and is more than double the construction industry average for the number of Indigenous peoples and women on projects. As new projects requiring different trades are advanced under the Community Benefits Agreement, BCIB expects to achieve results similar or better than 25%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This measure includes the participation of the following groups: Indigenous peoples, women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities and 2SLGBTQ+.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> BCIB is compliant with the Anti-Racism Data Act (ARDA) through the Freedom of Protection and Personal Privacy Act (FIPPA).

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
1.3a Percentage of total project hours worked by apprentices and trainees.	15%	10%	10%	10%
1.3b Overall ratio of apprenticeship hours to journeyperson hours 12.	25%	25%	25%	25%

Data source: BCIB Employee payroll data

#### Discussion

Creating meaningful opportunities for apprentices and trainees will help grow the future skilled trades workforce. BCIB has two performance measures tracking learning opportunities. Performance Measure 1.3a measures the hours worked by apprentices and trainees. Performance Measure 1.3b measures the utilization and supervision of apprentices by tracking the ratio of apprenticeship hours to journeyperson hours. Reporting these two measures shows BCIB's progress towards growing the skilled trades workforce by creating opportunities on Community Benefits Agreement projects.

BCIB has set a 10% target for total project hours worked by apprentices and trainees (Performance Measure 1.3a) based on performance in past years. This performance measure and the current target appropriately reflects the mix of trades anticipated to be deployed during the year. BCIB will monitor performance and review targets for subsequent years as the weight of road building projects and its corresponding influence in the labour mix begin to decrease.

The 25% target for Performance Measure 1.3b is based on the apprenticeship utilization and supervision requirements in the Community Benefits Agreement. BCIB endeavours to maximize this measure while maintaining the requirements for safety and supervision.

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
1.4 Percentage of employees who completed the Respectful Onsite Initiative program.	95%	100%	100%	100%

#### **Discussion**

BCIB coordinates with contractors and government project owners to schedule Respectful Onsite Initiative training. The Community Benefits Agreement states that all Community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> This performance measure supports Community Benefits Agreement Article 9.302, which sets an overall target ratio of apprenticeship hours to journeyperson hours for all BC-recognized Red Seal Trades, averaged over the projects. Performance Measure 1.2b was developed based on ratios in the original Community Benefits Agreement and before Labourers had developed full apprenticeship opportunities through Construction Craft Worker certification. As such, this performance measure excludes Labourers.

Benefits Agreement employees will be provided with training and BCIB endeavours to achieve that requirement. However, at times, the contractor's construction schedule can impact the delivery of training.

### Goal 2: Successfully administer and implement the shared goals of the Community Benefits Agreement on public infrastructure projects.

BCIB relies on partners to help make Community Benefits Agreement projects successful. The Community Benefits Agreement is a change to how industry and unions have built infrastructure in the past. BCIB conducts engagement, establishes partnerships and collaborates with contractors, unions, communities, First Nations Rightsholders and government project owners to deliver Community Benefits Agreement objectives.

# Objective 2.1: Support procurement on Community Benefits Agreement infrastructure projects.

To help familiarize businesses with the Community Benefits Agreement and to support project procurements, BCIB conducts engagement and dialogue with the contractor community. This helps projects proceed as planned and ensures the terms of the Community Benefits Agreement are understood by contractors.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Proactively engage the contractor community, and the vertical construction industry, with workshops and information sessions to support project procurement.
- Work with all contractors (unionized, non-unionized and independent contractors) to support bidding and participation in Community Benefits Agreement projects.
- Engage in regular opportunities for feedback, collaboration, and education to communicate and inform unions, industry stakeholders, and the contractor and subcontractor community about the Community Benefits Agreement objectives and terms.
- Demonstrate how the Community Benefits Agreement is implemented on project bids and at the worksite through BCIB's active engagement with bidders and other targeted outreach during each project's procurement process.

#### **Discussion**

BCIB's engagement and dialogue with the contractor community supports one of the key objectives in the Community Benefits Agreement, which is to allow any contractor in the construction industry to bid on and perform work on Community Benefits Agreement projects 13. The Community Benefits Agreement includes protections for non-unionized

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 1.100(a).

contractors to ensure all companies can bid and perform work, whether they are affiliated with a union or not<sup>14</sup>.

Across Community Benefits Agreement projects, nearly 60% of contractors are not affiliated with the unions in the Allied Infrastructure and Related Construction Council (AIRCC). Open shop, non-unionized or contractors associated with alternative unions make up the majority of companies building Community Benefits Agreement projects. That shows that industry participation in Community Benefits Agreement projects is widespread and many non-unionized contractors on Community Benefits Agreement projects are tapping into a larger skilled workforce which traditionally has only been available to unionized companies. Through BCIB, these companies can access and rely on a supply of skilled trades workers.

# Objective 2.2: Engage with community groups, labour and industry to recruit skilled workforce and enhance Community Benefits Agreement awareness.

An objective of the Community Benefits Agreement is to grow and diversify the workforce. BCIB cannot achieve its mandate alone and requires support from a range of partners, communities, First Nations Rightsholders and agencies to recruit and mobilize workers and successfully implement the Community Benefits Agreement.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Communicate employment opportunities to organizations by working with local community groups, economic development associations, equity seeking and underrepresented groups.
- Work in partnership with the Affiliated Unions, SkilledTradesBC and the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills as well as local school districts, through their career counsellors, to present project opportunities to students.
- Engage with local governments to help attract the workforce to projects being built in their communities.
- Meet with local First Nations Rightsholders to communicate employment and upskilling opportunities and request a list of their qualified skilled workers for Priority Hiring.

#### **Discussion**

Objectives include maximizing access to Community Benefits Agreement projects to all available and experienced workers<sup>15</sup> and ensuring individuals, communities and businesses have full and fair opportunity to participate in the benefits of Community Benefits Agreement projects<sup>16</sup>. To do this, BCIB conducts targeted outreach to help recruit and mobilize a skilled

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 1.100(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Community Benefits Agreement Article 1.100(d).

workforce and create awareness of the Community Benefits Agreement within the construction industry.

BCIB regularly engages with community groups, local governments, economic development associations, employment support organizations and industry associations to create valuable partnerships in recruiting, mobilizing, and growing a diverse, skilled trades workforce.

#### **Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
2.1 Number of contractors engaged through industry engagement and collaborative meetings on Community Benefits Agreement projects.	150	100	Based on project schedule	Based on project schedule

Data source: BCIB industry engagement data

#### Discussion

BCIB supports project procurement by working closely with industry, before, during and after projects are tendered. Engagement includes meetings with individual contractors, business-to-business networking sessions, technical workshops, info sessions, all proponent meetings and specific topic meetings held in partnership with government project owners.

The number of industry engagements and collaborative meetings in future years will depend on the number of projects selected by government to be delivered under the Community Benefits Agreement. The target for 2025/26 has been developed based on specified Community Benefits Agreement projects currently in the planning or procurement phase. Targets for future years will be established based on what projects are approved to be delivered under the Community Benefits Agreement.

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
2.2 Completion of outreach engagements.	350	200	Based on project schedule	Based on project schedule

Data source: BCIB Stakeholder and Rightsholder engagement data

#### Discussion

Outreach engagements for this performance measure include meetings with businesses, First Nations Rightsholders, and training and support services close to Community Benefits Agreement projects. Engagement, collaboration, and education are key to the successful implementation of the Community Benefits Agreement. BCIB will continue its outreach engagements in the coming service planning period and engage with employment support

organizations, community groups, local governments, industry, and economic development associations as appropriate.

# Goal 3: Optimize business processes to deliver on Community Benefits Agreement objectives.

BCIB works proactively with contractors, project owners and the Affiliated Unions to provide a skilled workforce in a timely manner and help mitigate labour supply risks for contractors. This helps BCIB and projects achieve the objectives set out in the Community Benefits Agreement.

## Objective 3.1: Build processes that mitigate labour supply risk for BCIB and contractors.

BCIB uses collaborative forecasting and supply and demand modelling tools to assess labour availability and risks. Forward-looking assessments of labour supply helps ensure costs are kept low while delivering Community Benefits Agreement objectives.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Identify skilled workforce gaps to inform recruitment strategies using the BCIB labour supply and demand model.
- Work with contractors, government project owners and the Affiliated Unions to review contractor workforce forecasts.
- Recruit the skilled workforce that contractors anticipate they need through proactive engagement with community groups and employment services.
- Fill Contractor Employee Requests accurately and in a timely manner by working closely with the Affiliated Unions.

#### Discussion

Contractors are required to submit rolling, three-month, skilled workforce forecasts to BCIB every month to assist with sourcing and providing the skilled workforce. BCIB discusses these forecasts with the contractor, the Affiliated Unions and the government project owner to plan for anticipated future skilled workforce needs and projected timing.

BCIB's labour supply and demand model anticipates potential workforce supply challenges for high demand trades. The model considers projects across the province, and both the supply of unionized and non-union workforce.

The labour supply and demand model and contractor forecast review enables BCIB to effectively source and supply the skilled workforce for contractors. These companies can access and rely on skilled trades workers provided by BCIB, which helps mitigate labour supply risk.

Performance Measure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
3.1 Percentage of Employee requests filled within 30 days.	95%	95%	95%	95%

#### **Discussion**

BCIB has moved its target of 90% up to 95% based on past performance. BCIB's efficient and reliable business processes have consistently met workforce requirements from contractors.

Sourcing, recruiting and reliably deploying employees demonstrate BCIB's ability to meet contractor demand and deliver its mandate.

## Financial Plan

### **Financial Summary**

\$m	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Revenues				
Contracted Services	240.1	280.0	224.2	44.1
Service Fee	19.4	23.1	18.8	7.9
Total Revenue	259.5	303.1	243.0	52.0
Expenses				
Project Skilled Workforce	240.1	280.0	224.2	44.1
People Services and Indigenous Relations	4.8	5.0	3.6	0.6
Operations	4.2	5.4	3.7	0.8
Finance & Corporate Services	10.4	12.7	11.5	6.5
Total Expenses	259.5	303.1	243.0	52.0
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Debt	16.0	22.0	20.0	0.0
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital Expenditures	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.0

Note: The above financial information was prepared based on current Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

#### **Breakdown of Total Expenses**

\$m	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Wages & Benefits	252.3	293.6	234.6	48.2
Administration, IT & Other	3.6	4.4	4.2	2.1
Professional Services	0.7	1.4	1.3	0.3
Contractors	2.0	2.8	2.0	0.5
Facilities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Total Expenses	259.5	303.1	243.0	52.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A majority of the Wages & Benefits represents those employees that perform construction work on major infrastructure projects.

#### **Key Forecast Assumptions, Risks and Sensitivities**

BCIB's budget and forecast reflect the following assumptions:

- Project start dates, along with the project scope and budget, are key inputs into establishing workforce labour costs. Any changes to these inputs will impact Project Skilled Workforce costs and Contracted Services revenue.
- New projects are added to the Community Benefits Agreement as they are approved by government.

#### **Management's Perspective on Financial Outlook**

BCIB recognizes that project schedules can shift, and that payroll recovered from contractors is dependent on the project schedule and timing. When project schedule changes do occur, they are outside of BCIB's control and revenue targets are impacted because of lower-than-expected numbers of workers employed on jobsites. BCIB maintains focus on managing costs, monitoring performance against targets, and meeting annual financial metrics. Project construction schedules and trades requirements will continue to drive BCIB's operations and recruitment and BCIB scales its operations accordingly.

# Appendix A: Mandate Letter from the Minister Responsible



Date: June 14, 2023

David Miller BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. 89 West Georgia Street, Suite 1050 Vancouver BC, V6B 6G1

Dear Mr. Miller:

On behalf of Premier Eby and the Executive Council, I would like to extend my thanks to you, your board members and your organization's leadership for your dedication, expertise, and service to the people of British Columbia.

Public sector organizations – including Crowns, Health Authorities and Post Secondary Institution Boards – support British Columbians by delivering vital public services and are accountable to the public through their responsible Minister. Your leadership in advancing and protecting the public interest strengthens trust in public institutions.

You are serving British Columbians at a time when people in our province continue to recover from and respond to the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, an ongoing toxic drug crisis, climate-related natural disasters, and while global inflation is driving up costs. Now more than ever, we need to focus on building a prosperous, low-carbon, sustainable economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – in rural areas, in cities, and in Indigenous communities.

This mandate letter, which I am sending in my capacity as Minister responsible for BC Infrastructure Benefits, sets out overarching principles relevant to the entire public sector and specific direction on priorities and expectations for your organization for the remainder of Government's term.

Government and public sector organizations must continue to advance results that people can see and feel in these key areas: strengthened health care, safer communities, attainable and secure housing, and a clean and fair economy that delivers affordability and prosperity.

In doing so, you will continue working towards lasting and meaningful Reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in the province we are building together, and delivering on specific commitments as outlined in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* action plan.

Telephone: 250 387-3751 Facsimile: 250 387-5594 Website: www.gov.bc.ca/fin



As required by the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, please ensure your organization implements targets and strategies for minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and managing climate risk, including achieving carbon neutrality each year and aligning with the CleanBC target of a 50% reduction in public sector building emissions and a 40% reduction in public sector fleet emissions by 2030. Your organization is expected to work with government to report out on these plans and activities as required by legislation.

Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. The public sector has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every public sector organization has a role in this work. As part of this work, your organization is expected to adopt the Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens to ensure gender equity is reflected in your operations and programs.

British Columbians expect that public sector organizations operate in a responsible manner to deliver quality services equitably in all regions of the province. This requires strategic stewardship of planning, operations, and policies in the areas of financial, risk, and human resource management including information security and privacy protection.

The protection of government data and networks is a priority, especially where it concerns personal information of British Columbians. Public sector organizations must maintain up to date systems and effective cybersecurity practices, including maintaining current information management and cybersecurity policies, guidelines and standards; evaluating your organization against industry standards; and maintaining appropriate security and privacy practices. The Office of the Chief Information Officer within the Ministry of Citizens Services is available to support and offer guidance to your organization in any of these areas.

Public sector organizations must also implement and maintain an effective fraud risk management strategy. The Office of the Comptroller General and the Risk Management Branch in the Ministry of Finance is available for consultation.

The Crown Agencies Secretariat (CAS) in the Ministry of Finance supports public sector organizations to operate effectively, in the public interest, and aligned with government's strategic direction and priorities. Within CAS, the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) will continue to support you and your board on recruitment, appointments and professional development, as well ensuring Board composition and governance reflects the diversity of our province. CAS can support you in public sector governance best practices, policy and planning.

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In addition to continuing to make progress on your 2021 mandate letter, I expect you to ensure the important priorities and areas of focus listed in this letter are incorporated into the practices of your organization.

Each board member is asked to sign this letter to acknowledge this direction from government to your organization. The signed letter is to be posted publicly on your website by summer 2023.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and your Board colleagues to meet the high standards set for us by all British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Katrine Conroy

Aptini Conray

Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for the Columbia Basin Trust, Columbia Power Corporation, and the Columbia River Treaty

June 14, 2023

cc: Honourable David Eby, KC

Premier

Shannon Salter

Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the BC Public Service

**Heather Wood** 

Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board

Ministry of Finance

Mary Sue Maloughney

Associate Deputy Minister, Crown Agencies Secretariat

Ministry of Finance

Gary Kroeker

Director

BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Telephone: 250 387-3751

Facsimile: 250 387-5594

Website: www.gov.bc.ca/fin



Anita Atwal Director BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Cynthia Morton Director BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Chief Clifford White (Nees Ma'Outa) Director BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Irene Kerr Chief Executive Officer/President BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

**David Miller** 

Chair, BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Miller

Date: July 11, 2023

Anita Atwal

Director, BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Date: July 11, 2023

Chief Clifford White (Nees Ma'Outa)

Director, BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Date: July 11, 2023

GARY KROBKER

Gary Kroeker

Director, BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

Date: July 11, 2023

Cynthia Morton

Director, BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

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