



May 23, 2025

145831

Jocelyn Carver
Chair
Columbia Basin Trust
Suite 300, 445 – 13 Avenue
Castlegar BC V1N 1G1

Dear Jocelyn Carver:

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

Public sector organizations—including Crown corporations, Health Authorities and Post-Secondary Institutions—support British Columbians and the Columbia Basin region by delivering vital public services and are accountable to the public through their Minister responsible and in the case of Columbia Basin Trust, also the *Columbia Basin Trust Act*. Your continued leadership in advancing the mission of Columbia Basin Trust strengthens trust in public institutions.

This mandate letter, which I am sending in my capacity as Minister responsible for the Columbia Basin Trust (Trust), communicates overarching principles relevant to the entire public sector as well as specific agreed-upon priorities and expectations of your organization for the duration of Government's term.

Government's priority is to make a tangible difference in people's lives through growing the economy, creating good paying jobs, strengthening health care and making our communities and neighbourhoods safer for British Columbians. This includes strategic stewardship in planning, operations, financial, risk, and human resource management including information security and privacy protection. Providing equitable service requires due consideration of the diverse needs of local communities with specific attention to the unique needs of rural, remote and First Nation communities.

In the current economic and fiscal context including the threat of U.S. tariffs and other global economic challenges affecting British Columbian families, your organization has agreed to review all existing programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, efficient, and sustainable. Public sector organizations are expected to adhere to



the principles of: cost consciousness, accountability, appropriate compensation, service, and integrity. This includes following the spirit and intent of core government fiscal management practices to make all efforts to achieve administrative and operating efficiencies while delivering core programs and services.

Strategic stewardship requires public sector organizations keep up-to-date systems and implement effective cybersecurity practices, including maintaining information management and cybersecurity policies, guidelines, and standards; assessing enterprise risk for high-value information and services, including confidential and sensitive data; and continuously evaluating and updating security practices to align with industry standards. 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 including communication protocols with core government.

As required by the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, you must ensure your organization implements plans and strategies for minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and managing climate risk. Your organization is expected to work with my ministry to report out on these plans and activities as required by legislation. Public sector organizations will continue to take action on climate change, a commitment that remains foundational and key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples and our commitment to advancing reconciliation. I expect your organization to comply with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, including implementing existing commitments made under it. I expect your organization to work in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests within the context of the Columbia Basin Trust Act.

Public sector organizations must also adhere to government direction provided through the [Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat](#) (PSEC) with respect to public sector compensation and bargaining mandates. Your organization's compensation decisions must be consistent with policy direction provided through PSEC. Please coordinate closely with PSEC before finalizing compensation decisions for existing CEOs or Presidents and Vice Presidents and in the recruitment of new CEOs or Presidents. PSEC consultation is also encouraged prior to hiring for Vice President positions.

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](#) will continue to support your board on recruitment, appointments and professional development by ensuring board composition and governance reflects the diversity of our province.

I expect you to ensure the important priorities and areas of focus listed in this letter are incorporated into the practices of your organization and as you develop plans to address the following agreed priorities:

- Implement the strategic priorities identified by Basin residents and included in the Columbia Basin Management Plan; and,
- Maintain an active and cooperative relationship with partners in power project management and operations to ensure the projects deliver optimized financial returns and are managed in the best long-term interests of the owners.

Each board member is asked to sign this letter to acknowledge these agreed priorities. The signed letter is to be posted publicly on your website by June 2025.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and your board colleagues to ensure the sustainable delivery of programs and initiatives for the benefit of Basin residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ADIX".

Adrian Dix
Minister

Date: May 23, 2025

cc: Honourable David Eby, KC
Premier

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

Douglas S. Scott
Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board
Ministry of Finance



Elenore Arend
Associate Deputy Minister, Crown Agencies Secretariat
Ministry of Finance

Peter Pokorny
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions

Johnny Strilaeff
President and CEO
Columbia Basin Trust

Owen Torgerson
Director and Vice-Chair
Columbia Basin Trust

Susan Clovechok
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Angus Graeme
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Karen Hamling
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Suzan Hewat
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Christine Hoechsmann
Director
Columbia Basin Trust



Betty Anne Marino
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Ron Oszust
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Krista Turcasso
Director
Columbia Basin Trust

Bill van Yzerloo
Director
Columbia Basin Trust



Jocelyn Carver
Chair
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Owen Torgerson,
Director and Vice-Chair
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Susan Clovechok
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Angus Graeme
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Karen Hamling
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Suzan Hewat
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Christine Hoechsmann
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Betty Anne Marino
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Ron Oszust
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025

Krista Turcasso
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill van Yzerloo".

Bill van Yzerloo
Director
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: June 6, 2025