January 31, 2018

Mr. Rick Jensen  
Chair  
Columbia Basin Trust  
Suite 300 445 – 13 Ave  
Castlegar BC V1N 1G1

Dear Mr. Jensen:

On behalf of Premier Horgan, thank you for your service to the people of British Columbia. The government remains committed to working with our Crown agency partners to deliver on commitments to British Columbians: to help make life more affordable for people, invest in services and build a strong, sustainable economy.

This Mandate Letter confirms your organization’s mandate and annual strategic direction, and sets out key performance expectations for the 2018/19 fiscal year, which should inform the preparation of your three-year Service Plan for Budget 2018.

The government made three key commitments to British Columbians. Our first commitment is to make life more affordable. We expect all public sector organizations to support government’s agenda to help manage the daily cost of living for British Columbians.

Our second commitment is to deliver the services that people count on. Many of the programs and services that British Columbians access on a regular basis are delivered by Crown agencies. We want to build on programs that are working well, and make improvements where needed, to ensure British Columbians get quality and timely customer service from public sector organizations across the province.

Our third key commitment is to build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone. The government believes that public sector organizations have a key role to play in supporting broad-based economic growth in every region of the province.

To support true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia, our government is fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). Please ensure that going forward your organization incorporates the UNDRIP and TRC, given the specific mandate and context of your organization.

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The Trust’s mandate is established by the Columbia Basin Trust Act as follows:

The purpose of the corporation is to invest, spend and otherwise manage the regional allocation and the corporation’s other assets, including any assets that may be transferred to it, for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the region including, without limitation, for

a. the social well-being of the residents of the region,
b. the preservation, protection and enhancement of the environment of the region,
c. the economic development of the region, and
d. any other prescribed purposes.

To achieve this mandate, the Province and the Trust have agreed that the Trust should take the following strategic actions:

- Continue to develop and implement new initiatives in response to the 2014/15 community engagement process, and ensure these new initiatives are aligned with the renewed Columbia Basin Management Plan and implemented in an effective and efficient manner.
- 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.
- Continue to work with the Province and Columbia Power Corporation to explore structural options to further enhance value to both the Province and Basin residents.

The Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) at the Ministry of Finance has lead responsibility for overseeing and maintaining the Public Sector Organizations Governance Framework, and provides leadership for the merit based appointment of qualified and competent individuals to the boards of Crown agencies.

Columbia Basin Trust is asked to work closely with CABRO through your ministry contact on board appointments, all governance matters including orientation and training of board members, and meeting public sector reporting requirements under the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act.

Each board member is required to acknowledge the direction provided in this Mandate Letter by signing this letter. The Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization’s website on Budget Day on February 20, 2018 to coincide with the release of your organizations’ Service Plan.

I have appreciated your support as Board Chair to me as Minister responsible in the first few months of our government’s term in office. I look forward to ongoing dialogue and engagement going forward through our scheduled meetings and other communication channels between my ministry and your organization. Part of that engagement process includes regular meetings between your communications staff and the appropriate Government Communications and Public Engagement staff who provide support to your ministry responsible.

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Once again, thanks to you and your Board of Directors for your commitment to public service. Together, we will work to build a better B.C.

Sincerely,

Katrine Conroy
Minister of Children and Family Development

cc:
Honourable John Horgan, Premier
Don Wright, Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary
Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
David Galbraith, Associate Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board, Ministry of Finance
Allison Bond, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Children and Family Development
Laurie Page, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Larry Binks, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Wendy Booth, Vice Chair, Columbia Basin Trust
Murray McConnachie, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Corky Evans, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Am Naqvi, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Loni Parker, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
David Raven, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Jocelyn Carver, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Vickie Thomas, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Jeannette Townsend, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Johnny Strilaeff, Chief Executive Officer/President, Columbia Basin Trust