May 22, 2019

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

Dear Rick Jensen:

I would like to extend appreciation on behalf of the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, and the Executive Council for the dedication of you and your board members in serving the public interest. Crown agencies play a key role in delivering important services that benefit British Columbians in every region of our province.

Government’s three priorities remain unchanged: make life more affordable, deliver the services people count on and build a strong and sustainable economy that supports jobs throughout the province. Across government ministries and in strong partnership with Crown agencies, our emphasis is on raising the standard of living for all British Columbians, delivering quality programs and services that are practical and realistic in a British Columbian context and in our fiscal environment, and judiciously managing affordability pressures – both for citizens and for our business community.

The Columbia Basin Trust is mandated under the Columbia Basin Trust Act to manage its assets for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the Columbia Basin region.

Our government has also made important commitments to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, taking action against climate change and working to ensure that our public service and public sector institutions are representative and inclusive of all our diverse society:

- Government is adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDPIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), demonstrating our support for true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. All public sector organizations are expected to incorporate the UNDRIP and TRC within their specific mandate and context. Additionally, in May 2018, government released 10 Draft Principles to Guide the Province’s Relationship with Indigenous Peoples, which serves as a guide for all public sector organizations as we continue to build relationships with Indigenous communities based on respect and recognition of inherent rights.

Ministry of
Children and Family Development
Office of the Minister
Mailing Address:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4
Location:
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Victoria
• While government has already taken steps towards achieving our legislated carbon reduction targets, much remains to be done. Our new climate strategy will outline significant GHG reduction measures in 2019/20 while supporting our program and service objectives through economic growth powered by clean, renewable energy, supported by technological innovation. Please ensure your organization’s operations align with government’s new climate plan.

• Over the coming fiscal year, I look forward to working with your leadership team to provide effective, citizen-centred governance through strong public sector boards that represent the diversity of British Columbia. The Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) at the Ministry of Finance provides leadership for the appointment process to fill positions on the boards of Crown agencies. As your board is renewed over time, I encourage you to work with CABRO to actively seek out women, visible minorities, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ individuals, and others who may contribute to diversity to add to the CABRO candidate pool to fill open positions. My expectation is that candidates with a broad range of backgrounds in community, labour and business environments will be invited to apply to help renew British Columbia’s public sector boards.

Having Canada’s Digital Supercluster located in British Columbia creates an opportunity for industries, government ministries, crown agencies, public institutions and non-governmental organizations to collaborate in digital research and development projects. Should the Columbia Basin Trust intend to participate in or be a funding partner for Digital Supercluster projects, you are asked to work closely with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (EMPR) staff to ensure that investments are aligned with Government’s priorities and, wherever possible, undertaken collectively with partner ministries and organizations. EMPR will work with the recently-established Deputy Minister’s Committee on the Digital Supercluster to ensure that all projects are coordinated effectively across government.

To achieve its mandate under the Columbia Basin Trust Act, the Province and the Columbia Basin 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.

Each board member is required to sign the Mandate Letter to acknowledge this agreement. The Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization’s website on Budget Day on February 19, 2020, to coincide with the release of your organization’s service plan.
I look forward to ongoing collaboration with your Board as we work together to deliver improved service and better outcomes for British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Katrine Conroy
Minister of Children and Family Development

Rick Jensen,
Chair

Krista Turcasso,
Board Member

Carol Andrews,
Board Member

Larry Binks,
Board Member

Jocelyn Carver,
Vice Chair

Corky Evans,
Board Member

Murray McConnachie,
Board Member

Don McCormick,
Board Member

Ron Oszust,
Board Member

David Raven,
Board Member

Vickie Thomas,
Board Member

Owen Torgerson,
Board Member
pc: Honourable John Horgan
Don Wright, Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary
Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
Heather Wood, Associate Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board,
    Ministry of Finance
Allison Bond, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Children and Family Development
Les MacLaren, Assistant Deputy Minister,
    Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Rick Jensen, Chair, Columbia Basin Trust
Jocelyn Carver, Vice Chair, Columbia Basin Trust
Carol Andrews, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Larry Binks, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Corky Evans, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Murray McConnachie, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Don McCormick, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Ron Oszust, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
David Raven, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Vickie Thomas, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Owen Torgerson, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Krista Tuccasso, Board Member, Columbia Basin Trust
Johnny Strilaeff, Chief Executive Officer/President, Columbia Basin Trust