

# JOURNALS

## OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

### OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 2009

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**Monday, February 16, 2009**

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TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Pastor Ken Clarke of Valley Congregational Christian Church of Canada.

This being the first day of the fifth meeting of the Thirty-eighth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable STEVEN L. POINT, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, dated the 5th day of February, 2009, the Members took their seats.

The Honourable STEVEN L. POINT, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne and was pleased to deliver the following gracious speech:

*Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislature:*

As we open this session of the 38th Parliament, we pause to honour the memory and contributions of British Columbians who have recently passed.

Members mourn the loss of former members of this Assembly and Members of Parliament, the Honourable Stan Hagen, Dennis Cocke, Mark Rose, Ray Perrault, and Jim Fulton.

We also recognize the contribution of this legislature's former Sergeant-at-Arms Anthony Humphreys, former Agent General for British Columbia in London, Alex Hart and former Ambassador J. Alan Beesley.

We owe a special debt to Master Corporal Erin Doyle, Captain Jonathan Sutherland Snyder, Sapper Stephan Stock, Private Terry John Street and aid workers Shirley Case and Jiri Zivny, who fell in pursuit of peace and human aid overseas.

We join First Nations communities to honor the memory of Grand Chief Bernard Charles, Chief Dempsey Collinson, Chief Peter Seymour, elder Lena Jacobs and elder Agnes McCoy.

Civic leaders like Ed Wampler, Calvin Kruk, Murray Dykeman, Ernie Crist, Frank Carson, Victor Tessaro, and Bill Whalley have left indelible contributions.

We've bid farewell to talented contributors to B.C. sport and culture Bob Ackles and Chuck Bailey; notable business leaders like Geoffrey Ballard, Dennis Zanatta and Harold Zlotnik.

And today we salute the 62 dedicated members of the B.C. Public Service who passed away last year, among them, Brenda Bulmer, Robert Davidson, Gloria Loewen, Jim May, and Denise Durand Hutchinson. They helped build a better province for us all.

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We live in a radically changed world.

A world rocked to its core by a global crisis of confidence.

It is a tumultuous time of uncertainty and shaken assumptions that has left families and businesses wondering what hit them.

This new world requires a new mindset that finds hope in the transformation that now drives us to change.

It's an entrepreneurial mindset that sees opportunity in the dire reality of global warming and its clarion call for innovation, clean energy and the green economy.

The new economy must focus on smarter government, leveraged investment and constructive change founded on new partnerships.

The importance of the Asia Pacific and its strategic relevance to British Columbia in this Olympic era, as Canada's Pacific Gateway, is magnified today.

The knowledge economy and the value it places on specialized skills and creativity is essential.

The seismic shifts we are experiencing call for long-term thinking and fundamental changes in human behaviour that create the impetus for healthier living and innovation in health delivery, new housing and job creation.

These global challenges cannot be resolved by simply more government spending. They require integration not isolation, partnership not partisanship, and focus not fragmentation.

The failed responses of the past are no roadmap to the future. They will only take us backwards.

The way forward is the path of greater collaboration, freer trade, and coordinated strategies that understand how fundamentally things have changed.

It is the path that views progress through a new prism of trust and takes us beyond our differences to new spectrums of possibility.

The answers we seek will not be found in the narrow confines of parochialism, ideology, or tired dogma.

They will only be found with open minds and pragmatic action that embraces change as a necessary and positive condition of progress.

As we meet today, families worry about their jobs, raising their kids, and caring for their aging parents.

The weight of their mortgage or rent or credit card debt hangs heavily on their day-to-day lives.

Seniors have seen dramatic drops in their retirement savings.

Companies that once looked to expand, now work to survive.

The things we took for granted keep changing.

These are challenges that call this legislature to action.

Government must deal with the realities of the moment, while pursuing the opportunities of the future.

The heart of the economic crisis we now face is a global crisis of confidence.

We must restore stability and reverse the psychology of loss that drives current trends.

No place on Earth offers more cause for hope and confidence in the future than British Columbia.

No economy on the continent is better positioned to weather this tornado of change and to come through it stronger than ours.

We are the lucky ones.

We need to look beyond the towering clouds now overhead to the sheer potential of the people and landscape around us.

That potential is vast in British Columbia. Together, we can seize it.

Our economy is more diversified than ever.

We are uniquely advantaged as Canada's Pacific Gateway to the world's fastest-growing markets.

British Columbia has enormous potential in clean, low-carbon energy, mining, forestry, agriculture, manufacturing, technology, tourism, trade and transportation.

Our taxes are low. Our standard of living is high. We are blessed with spectacular natural, physical and human assets.

This is what the world will see in only 361 days, when we host the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

It is that fundamental strength and character, which has always defined British Columbia, that we must call on now to guide us forward with confidence.

That does not minimize the challenge at hand.

Only a few weeks ago, most experts predicted net growth for British Columbia in the year ahead.

Today, we must brace for a period of recession.

How deep it might be, or how long it will last, is impossible to know.

Few, if any, saw the sheer force and speed of the decline's progression.

Now, it is hitting our families, companies, communities and provincial finances.

Last fall your government acted. It eliminated tolls on the Coquihalla Highway, accelerated tax relief for individuals and businesses and insured credit union deposits.

It increased 20-fold the funding for resource road maintenance and rehabilitation.

It established new stability in property assessments, a new property tax deferral option and new RRSP protection.

In the year ahead, a new voluntary, defined contribution pension plan will be established to help those who currently have no pension plan.

We will seek to do that in partnership with Alberta, Saskatchewan and private employers, to create a common plan that is available to our citizens and capable of extension to all Canadians.

Enabling legislation will be developed this year, so that B.C.'s new pension plan is up and running by Canada Day in 2010.

Tomorrow's budget will build on these and other measures, with a sound financial plan that is prudent, responsive and responsible.

It will be marked by significant fiscal restraint, discipline and new economic stimulus that is affordable, timely and cost effective.

At the core of that plan is this government's broader vision that aspires to our Five Great Goals.

It is a strategy that views global leadership on climate action as impetus for innovation, investment, sustainable growth and new jobs.

It is predicated on partnerships with all who want to help our province build for the future.

Our government will do all it can to protect the economic gains families have made in the last eight years and to secure enhanced economic prospects for them in the years ahead.

The government will avoid layering on new costs that take more money out of the economy.

Last year, almost one billion dollars of economic stimulus was put into the economy with tax reductions and the climate action dividend.

Now is not the time to impose hundreds of millions in new costs on small businesses through an increased minimum wage that will mean more job losses, will depress job creation and will hurt those it purports to help.

Now is not the time to take more money out of our economy through higher taxes.

That is why this government accelerated and expanded tax cuts last fall.

That is why every penny of carbon emissions revenue, and more, has been returned to taxpayers through new tax relief.

Over 100 tax cuts made by our government were critical in our economy's remarkable recovery over the last eight years.

They generated hundreds of thousands of new jobs since 2001 and drove down B.C.'s unemployment rates to the lowest levels in over 30 years.

Now more than ever, we need to maintain low taxes.

New tax relief gives light and heavy industry a 50 per cent rebate on school property taxes.

That will help save jobs, particularly in rural communities.

Yet more needs to be done to ensure that provincial tax relief is not negated by local property tax hikes.

Our government will work with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities to develop new legislation over the summer, for introduction early next year, that will protect provincial tax reductions.

All levels of government must be equally disciplined to ensure that tax reductions at one level of government are not negated by tax increases at another.

Not all economic strategies involve more government spending. Some require smarter thinking.

Many can be undertaken at lower cost.

Discretionary spending will be reduced to maximize available budget increases to support critical services for patients, students, children and those most vulnerable in our society.

Everyone will be asked to make each tax dollar go a little further and to help eliminate the deficits that will be unavoidable in the next two years.

The government will protect public sector labour agreements but where spending can be reasonably avoided, it will be.

Every effort will be made to balance the budget as required by law by 2011/12.

This government will not become inured to the injurious effects of deficits.

It will not slide down the easy slope into structural deficits that only push our debts onto the backs of our children and grandchildren.

We must not use our ability to overspend as new license to live beyond our means or to avoid tough decisions.

Institutionalized deficits only satisfy our needs this year by making it ever more difficult to provide services that are essential next year.

Government wants our children to have access tomorrow to the basic services we take for granted today.

That is why our government worked so hard to balance its budget and pay down debt accrued by years of overspending.

That is why future surpluses will be used to eliminate that dead weight operating debt.

Our fiscal discipline has enhanced our government's ability to finance needed capital projects.

Those projects produce hard assets with lasting value and provide ongoing benefit to those who must pay for their amortized costs.

Although overall taxpayer-supported debt will rise, it will still be far below the level this government inherited in ratio to the size of our economy.

Governments set conditions for strong economies. But families and small businesses, investors and entrepreneurs, resource companies, universities and colleges are the ones who create jobs that improve our quality of life.

Education is the best economic development and health promotion program ever invented.

In tight economic times, it is only smart to maintain and expand educational investments.

Our government will increase K-12 education funding in spite of falling school age populations.

We had hoped to be in a position to introduce a voluntary all-day kindergarten program for five-year-olds this September.

Regrettably, three factors will delay its introduction. Current economic circumstances, the need to develop appropriate space and the time to recruit qualified educators means it is not feasible in 2009.

However, government is committed to that vision and will commence creating space and teacher capacity to meet that need as soon as possible.

Funding for advanced education will increase.

As more students choose to complete their studies and more workers look to pursue new training and skills development, more resources will be available.

Fortunately, we have prepared, with the largest post-secondary expansion in 40 years.

That has created nearly 32,000 new student spaces since 2001.

Seven new universities have been established and new medical schools have been launched in Prince George, Victoria and Kelowna.

A new law school will be opened at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops in collaboration with the University of Calgary.

Nurse training has almost doubled and nurse practitioners are graduating for the first time.

Billions have been invested in new research, skills development, and expanded trades and apprenticeship training.

In partnership with the federal government, new capital investments will create jobs and provide essential upgrades and new space for our colleges and universities.

Our government will accelerate research investments this year in cancer, life sciences, technologies for cleaner energy and biotechnology.

Governments have an important and vital role in shaping economic change and guiding social development.

High quality health services and expansions in health infrastructure are vital priorities, as evidenced by the nearly 60 per cent increase in provincial health funding over the last eight years.

That funding has grown at three times the rate of inflation over the last decade and will continue to climb in the next three years.

In the past 30 years, health spending has climbed from 26 per cent of the provincial budget to more than 44 per cent of this year's budget.

That trend will grow in the foreseeable future, as 90 per cent of all budgeted new operating spending in the next three years will go to health care.

Those new investments will support innovation in health delivery and improvements in emergency care, health promotion, access to surgeries, mental health and addiction services.

They will also support thousands of jobs in health care for nurses, doctors and other health workers.

We must recognize that new increases in health spending crowd out other funding priorities.

Most ministries delivering programs other than health, education and vital social services will see significant budget reductions that will challenge them to embrace restraint itself as an economic growth strategy.

Our challenge is to find new ways to generate new wealth — wealth that generates tax revenue to fund social programs that are so important to B.C. families.

This government will continue to open up our economy in every region, in every sector and for all people.

The New Relationship with First Nations is critical in that regard, as is the Transformative Change Accord and the B.C. Treaty Process.

We need to close the gaps in education, health, housing and economic opportunity that have for too long disadvantaged B.C.'s first citizens.

That journey has begun.

The progress we have made is demonstrable.

This government is working with First Nations to develop a *Recognition and Reconciliation Act* that will establish a new statutory framework to further the implementation of the New Relationship.

It will acknowledge, and place in a provincial statutory context, that Indigenous people have long lived throughout British Columbia and that this fact does not require proof.

It will recognize constitutionally established Aboriginal rights and title, and will facilitate partnerships and prosperity through shared decision making and revenue sharing.

The *Act* will guide the conduct of the Crown and the relationship of Indigenous Nations and the Crown. It will create process certainty for third parties and Indigenous Nations as they pursue economic development.

The *Act* will support the rebuilding of the historic Indigenous Nations of British Columbia and enable the establishment of political structures for meaningful government-to-government relations.

The journey we have embarked upon is not easy.

It will involve compromise, forbearance and accountability from all of us.

It is a journey that is itself a search for new thinking, new approaches and mutual benefit.

If we get it right, it will be a significant provincial accomplishment for our times.

This we must do for every child and for the generations that follow us. We must do it for the enduring health, strength and enrichment of our province.

That same commitment to new partnerships in every avenue of intergovernmental relations is essential to unlocking our full potential.

New partnerships with other governments in Canada, in the United States and across the Pacific Rim are essential to our success.

We must view our trading partners as critical allies, not just as competitors.

If we look at the new world in “zero sum” terms, we will accomplish nothing.

The answer to shrinking global markets is not to close out the world and close off markets; it is to expand markets and to invite the world in, with new vigour and reciprocity.

That is what the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement with Alberta is about.

New legislation will be introduced this spring to advance that initiative and to achieve true labour mobility for all Canadians wanting to work in British Columbia.

We will relentlessly pursue free trade within Canada for the benefit of every Canadian.

In March, your government will host a first ever joint cabinet meeting with Alberta and Saskatchewan.

It will strengthen our strategic partnerships and open new opportunities across the West.

British Columbia is also creating new partnerships with our American neighbours.

Through the Western Climate Initiative and the Climate Registry, we are helping to lead a continental response to global warming that will shape our economic and environmental future.

The WCI cap and trade system will reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions and drive new sustainable growth.

We are leading the establishment of a new Pacific Coast Collaborative with California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

In March, a first Annual Leaders’ Forum in California will launch a new vision for sustainable regional growth focused on clean energy; transportation; collaborative research, development and innovation; protecting our oceans; harmonization of technical standards; and public-private partnerships.

In an uncertain age marked by growing demands for greater protectionism, these forums define mutual interest and common cause. The Enhanced Driver’s Licence is a good example of their benefit.

It is far better to be sitting across the table, working together, than to be talking at each other, across our borders, reinforcing differences.

The opportunities for understanding offer so much more potential.

To that end, our government will organize the Cross Border Summit in Penticton this summer.

Political leaders and business representatives from both sides of our international border will highlight the importance of our trade relationship and the opportunities for freer trade.

We will act in concert with our largest trading partner to create new markets and new opportunities for all our citizens.

Together we can build on our continental advantages in tourism, transportation, energy, agriculture, film, technology, manufacturing and small business.

Opportunities for mutual growth in every sector of our economy will buffer the blows of the global storm.

Too many barriers still exist within Canada.

We desperately need a national "open skies" policy.

The lack of progress on this priority is hurting every province and costs our economy hundreds of millions in lost opportunities and thousands of jobs.

It makes no sense for Canada to refuse airlines the right to service new routes that open up our province and regional economies in the North, the Okanagan, the Kootenays and the Island.

It serves no purpose to deny any community the right to attract new visitors, students, investors, commerce or direct air access to any country in the world.

To highlight that point and profile the opportunities for growth, an Open Skies Summit will also be held this September at the new Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre.

It will build on the spirit of 2010 and invite governments, international airlines, airport managers and businesses from across Canada and around the world to send a message that in the new world economy we all need direct, unfettered air access to our key customers.

Open skies is just one way to open up economic opportunity.

Removing interprovincial trade barriers and labour mobility barriers lowers costs, encourages investment and unites Canada.

Getting rid of costly duplication and overlap in government will reduce costs, uncertainty and risk while it increases investment and job growth.

We must act as one country, with all levels of government working in concert with one another for the same taxpayer, or we risk diminishing Canada's potential.

For any given project, there should be one process for review and approval.

We will pursue reciprocal arrangements and equivalency agreements to allow one thorough, comprehensive and scientific environmental assessment for one project.

We must learn how to act together for the betterment of the environment and the economy. That saves taxpayers' money, increases investment and increases jobs.

The federal *Navigable Waters Act* should be repealed and replaced by legislation that meets the legitimate needs of the 21st century.

A unified major project review process will speed up job creation in mining, energy, resort development and other areas.

Mining has a great future in British Columbia.

We can help capture its potential by expediting mine approvals and lowering the costs of risk capital.

We cannot do much about the precipitous drop in global commodity prices or stock values, but our government can and will act to help people working in mining and help that industry become more competitive.

In partnership with the federal government, the assistance programs now available to forest workers and supported by federal funding will be extended to other resource families facing similar difficulties.

In the long term, the outlook for mining, and the families who depend on it, is very positive.

Provincial investments are building geoscience data and expertise that will increase resource exploration and development.

The enhanced *Mining Exploration Tax Credit* and the extended *Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit* are stimulating investment and job creation.

Mining has benefited enormously from the elimination of the corporation capital tax and the sales tax on production machinery and equipment.

These and other measures have helped prompt a 1,300 per cent increase in mineral exploration in 2007 over 2001.

Over half of all new mine development projects in Canada are now located in British Columbia.

Those investments will help our economy rebound in the years to come.

This government will work to expand transmission capacity along Highway 37 to open mining and energy opportunities while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Energy is another core competitive advantage for British Columbia.

B.C. is a low-carbon energy powerhouse.

New technologies and the global hunger for clean, low-carbon energy and new sources of traditional energy are putting B.C. in the driver's seat.

Even with our commitment to meet 50 per cent of B.C.'s future electricity needs through conservation, more power will be needed to ensure we are electricity self-sufficient by 2016.

Electric plug-in vehicles and other technologies aimed at reducing fossil fuel dependency will place new demands on our electricity system.

We can meet those demands and create jobs and opportunities for our citizens.

Our government will build on its Clean Energy Plan with new direction to BC Hydro and to the British Columbia Utilities Commission.

We will lead North America in creating green power that retains our low cost "heritage power" advantage for B.C. ratepayers.

We will build on our plan to ensure that at least 90 per cent of all new power produced in B.C. comes from clean sources.

More work will be done this year to advance the dialogue on Site C to decide its merit.

Independent power production will continue to create new jobs in rural communities.

Your government will not turn its back on those rural jobs.

Nor will it close its eyes to the dire fact of climate change or the significant contributions we can make in reducing greenhouse gases.

We will open up new opportunities for private investment to create jobs and meet our needs.

That will not only be good for our economy, it will be good for our planet.

Our government will pursue a major expansion in transmission capacity that will create thousands of new construction jobs and reduce energy loss through transmission.

The goal of a Northeast Transmission Line will be pursued.

An integrated, expanded transmission plan that encourages small scale power projects, economic opportunity and jobs throughout B.C. will be set by year end.

We can become global leaders in wind, run-of-river, tidal, geothermal, wave, solar and other forms of clean, renewable power and leading-edge transmission technologies.

Energy opportunities will transform the future of forestry in British Columbia with clean, carbon-neutral bioenergy, fueled by biomass from beetle-killed forests.

It will mean new jobs, new revenue streams and new electricity.

It will create new uses for waste wood left on the forest floor and reduce forest fire hazards.

It will encourage replanting in areas that would not otherwise be reforested and generate new value in the green economy as standing "carbon sinks."

These are the green fields of opportunity created by independent power producers.

We cannot turn our backs on them and still say that we care about climate change, rural job creation, clean power, or the future of our forest industry.

It is time to grow that potential.

Natural gas is one of the cleanest-burning fossil fuels. It too is an important source of rural jobs and investment in our province.

Our government will open up that industry while still ensuring the province meets its legal greenhouse gas reduction targets.

New policies are in place to require the elimination of routine gas flaring by 2016.

New investments will be made in carbon sequestration technology.



With that policy framework in mind, B.C. will make the most of its remarkable wealth of natural gas.

The Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program will continue to spur road and pipeline infrastructure in new and undeveloped areas of B.C.

The new Net Profit Royalty Program will generate jobs and investment in fields that are remote or technically challenging.

The Horn River and Montney Basins alone have as much as 69 trillion cubic feet of recoverable gas.

That could yield over \$37 billion in provincial royalty revenue, enough to fund the Ministry of Environment for over 130 years.

And that is only two basins. And one type of revenue.

In 2008, we saw record oil and gas land rights sales of \$2.66 billion.

Beyond that, the industry pays corporate tax, personal income tax, sales tax, property tax — and more.

Those dollars go to support priorities like health care and education in our communities.

Far from government subsidizing energy, energy is subsidizing government.

That is why the Province has just enhanced the Deep Well Royalty Program.

The Bowser Basin, Nechako Basin and offshore reserves all offer significant long-term potential.

The new North will build on that abundance.

This government will work with First Nations, northern communities and the private sector to open up a new Northern Energy Corridor.

We can build on our potential to ship clean, liquid natural gas to Asia that will reduce its growing dependency on coal power and dramatically cut greenhouse gases.

British Columbia can build on its competitive advantage as a global leader in clean engine technologies that use natural gas and renewable bio-gas as fuel for trucks, buses and other commercial vehicles.

A new commercial vehicle program will help to build on that potential, to create cleaner air, lower greenhouse gas emissions, lower costs and create more jobs in research, development and manufacturing.

British Columbia can build on its position as a global leader in fuel cell, compressed natural gas and hydrogen technologies.

All of those technologies are being driven and supported by our Climate Action Plan.

Those policies stimulate innovation, research, investment and job creation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

They convert landfill gas into clean energy.

They use bio-waste to produce clean energy.

Our government will work to help commercialize biodiesel and cellulosic ethanol production that turns waste wood into clean fuel.

Energy is as much of the new forest industry's future as lumber, trade and pulp and paper.

Tough as things are for forest workers and companies today, the forest industry remains vital to our future.

The new forest industry must be nimble, productive and innovative. It can be.

Over 90 per cent of the wood pellets we produce in B.C. are exported to Europe and Japan for clean thermal power production.

The new green economy and the world's thirst for green power is driving that market.

Our entrepreneurs are turning that demand into new jobs for families and communities.

The more we look for ways to use wood, the more we will expand our wood markets.

New legislation will require wood as the primary building material in all new publicly-owned and provincially-funded buildings, consistent with the new *B.C. Building Code*.

We will lead the way in safe, six-storey wood frame construction that lowers building and housing costs.

Where wood can be employed in building designs for new structural purposes, such as the new Richmond Olympic Oval, it will be.

Where wood can be incorporated into trim and finishing, it will be — inside and out.

This will create a culture of wood that looks to wood first.

British Columbia will also push for a new Canadian “wood first” policy that can create new domestic demand for Canadian wood products.

Architects, designers, engineers and builders all need to help drive that vision.

A new Wood Innovation and Design Centre will be established in Prince George and affiliated with UNBC.

It will promote new expertise in advanced building systems, engineered wood products, interior wood design and applications, and other value-added products.

To the extent we become true masters of wood use here in B.C., we can become even more successful in marketing our wood products at home and abroad.

We will expand on the new initiative that will put wooden roof trusses on apartment buildings in Shanghai, opening up a massive new market in China.

We will market wood-based in-fill and partition wall construction.

If we can successfully promote the use of wood in key building components, we can dramatically expand our wood product exports.

We will continue to promote the landscape market that is unique to our coastal industry and is best suited to hemlock and cedar.

The Olympics will highlight and showcase our B.C. wood products and construction technologies.

As we help our forest industry build new markets, we will also help to lower its production costs.

Lower taxes, market-based stumpage, and the results-based Forest Practices Code have all helped.

So has the Softwood Lumber Agreement.

Without that agreement, our access to the American market would be even more restricted. Our industry would be paying more than double in American duties than it now pays in Canadian export tax.

Were it not for that agreement, our forest companies would have lost \$2.4 billion in U.S.-held duties.

That agreement creates certainty in a sea of volatility.

In a world of growing doubt, confidence seeks stability.

New land use plans and new partnerships with First Nations are helping to provide that.

A new Commercial Forest Reserve in B.C. will ensure harvested lands remain protected as a forest asset.

British Columbia will legally mandate Zero Net Deforestation.

The report of the Working Roundtable on Forestry will suggest additional measures to help our forest industry.

This government will continue the Forests for Tomorrow and Trees for Tomorrow programs.

Hundreds of millions of dollars are being invested to help communities meet the onslaught of the mountain pine beetle and create a more diversified, stabilized economic future.

Government is investing millions more in research, geoscience and wildfire prevention; in reallocating fibre to smaller operators, First Nations, community forests and woodlots; and in helping forest workers and coastal communities through this difficult transition.

Even with all of these measures, the collapse in the U.S. housing market, the volatile Canadian dollar, the declines in lumber and pulp prices and the global credit crunch have been devastating.

The fallout in the industry has been daunting and dramatic, and hardest of all on forest workers and their families.

Our government will continue to work closely with the federal government and industry to help.

The \$129-million Community Development Trust has provided tuition assistance, pension bridging and new employment programs to help our forest workers through these difficult times.

B.C.'s share of the federal government's new Community Adjustment Fund should help to sustain that program.

The Province will supplement that funding and focus its energies on keeping people working and helping working families.

That is why our government has more than doubled funding for tourism, lowered costs for small businesses and promoted new job creation in retail, agriculture, ranching, manufacturing, film, technology, wineries, resort development and more.

Significant increases in child care funding and higher subsidy thresholds have nearly doubled the number of licensed child care spaces receiving subsidies since 2001.

That helps working women and parents with young children.

Forty-five per cent of all jobs created since 2001 have been filled by women.

Their average weekly wage has grown by 26 per cent and is now the third highest in Canada.

Thirty-six per cent of all small businesses in B.C. are owned and operated by women — the second highest proportion in Canada.

Our government wants to build on that progress and preserve those gains.

Every job matters to the family that depends on it. When a family depends on a job to put food on the table, to pay the rent and to clothe their children, no other job is more important to them.

Governments have neither the resources nor the wherewithal to guarantee that no jobs will be lost, as recent job figures prove.

The challenge for government is to direct its limited resources where they can produce the biggest and most immediate employment benefits.

Capital construction is one of the best ways to do that.

Now is the time to build.

Interest rates are at record lows, commodity prices are at rock bottom and competition is intense.

The federal budget offers a major new pool of capital that can help the province to meet tomorrow's needs by building today.

This government will work to leverage all federal funding to put people to work as fast as possible.

It has already identified \$2 billion worth of projects that might be accelerated over the next three years.

Ours is the first province to respond with a comprehensive list of capital projects that match federal programs identified in the recent federal budget. Proposals for nearly 400 projects have been submitted to the federal government for its cost-sharing approvals.

A further \$10.6 billion in approved projects are already part of our three-year capital plan.

An additional \$1.4 billion worth of local infrastructure projects is also to be built.

That represents a total of \$14 billion in new and ongoing public capital construction and 88,000 jobs throughout the province.

Many of those projects will be launched in the next 90 days. All will be accelerated to the maximum extent possible.

Improvements in transportation and expanding public and rapid transit will complement investments in our border infrastructure, airports, ferries, rail corridors, highways and bridges.

Work will be accelerated on key transportation corridors including the Cariboo Connector, improvements to Highway 3, Highway 16, Highway 97, the Pine Pass, Kicking Horse Canyon and the Trans-Canada Highway from Kamloops to the border.

The new Park Bridge at Kicking Horse Canyon is now a reality.

The new William R. Bennett Bridge across Okanagan Lake is now complete.

The new Port of Prince Rupert is now open, attracting container shipping business and ready for expansion.

Now is the time to seize British Columbia's unique strategic advantage for the whole country. Government will focus on opening up our Pacific Gateway.

To complement the major new investments in the northern corridor, government will open up the new Delta Port, the new South and North Fraser Perimeter Roads, the new Port Mann Bridge, the new Evergreen Line and the new Pitt River Bridge and Mary Hill bypass.

British Columbia will pursue with the federal government a new Pacific Ports Authority, the expansion of a new northern transportation hub in Prince George and the phase two expansion of the Port of Prince Rupert.

We will act to further expand the job and investment opportunities associated with the International Financial Centre.

As the Olympic Games approach, we will encourage development of international businesses in all aspects of our economy.

We will be Canada's and North America's bridgehead to the Asian economies that will drive the world's economic recovery in the years ahead.

When the world arrives on our doorstep in 2010, it will see our vitality.

Three billion viewers will see a creative economy that values culture, art and building design as critical drivers of dynamic growth.

The new Vancouver Convention Centre will be a stunning showcase that defines our new role in the global economy.

The new South Okanagan Events Centre in Penticton, Charles Jago Northern Sports Centre in Prince George, and Vancouver Island Conference Centre in Nanaimo together with new First Nations cultural centers are jewels in a hospitality network that is the envy of the world.

Olympic Live Sites, Spirit Squares and galleries across this province will show the world our B.C. spirit.

We will build on that creative economy, with a new Vancouver Art Gallery and the new National Maritime Centre for the Pacific and the Arctic in North Vancouver.

We will leverage the promise of the new BC150 Cultural Fund and the new Great Northern Way Campus.

Our software, wireless and new media technology companies will be anchors for ongoing investment in clean, creative growth.

We will create new jobs in film as top quality partners of Hollywood and Bollywood.

This is the new British Columbia that all of the world will see in 2010.

A place of new green developments from Victoria's Docks Green to Vancouver's Olympic Village.

A place whose \$14-billion transit plan is building new rapid transit lines, new rapid bus lines and nearly doubling the number of buses in communities across B.C.

Private sector investments will be critical to our plan.

Most of the largest transportation projects undertaken in the past eight years have only been possible because of public-private partnerships.

The new Sea-to-Sky Highway and the new Canada Line are only two examples that have lowered costs, reduced risks to taxpayers and provided exceptional improvements in safety and access.

Partnerships built the new outpatient hospital in Vancouver and the new Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre.

They will build the new critical care tower at Surrey Memorial Hospital and the new Surrey Outpatient Hospital.

They are building the new Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, and new and expanded hospitals in Vernon, Kelowna and Fort St. John. They will build the new Northern Cancer Centre in Prince George and the new BC Children's Hospital.

Working with the federal government, we will invest in renovating, retrofitting and upgrading existing buildings, to make them more energy efficient, healthier and safer.

We will invest in hospitals, schools and post secondary institutions, with accelerated expansions, seismic upgrades and other improvements.

We will invest in leading-edge research infrastructure, in e-health and "last mile" broadband Internet connections.

Our government will help local governments access new funding to upgrade their infrastructure and to capitalize on new funding for recreation facilities and flood prevention.

All of that construction activity will generate new jobs for our skilled workers.

A major part of that initiative will be new investments in housing that will improve and expand our social housing stock.

Since 2001, our government has tripled provincial funding for housing and undertaken the largest expansion of social housing in B.C. history.

There are now three times more supportive housing units across B.C. than there were then, with over 16,000 new units of social housing either built or committed.

This government has purchased 45 buildings, including 25 single room occupancy hotels, to protect and upgrade affordable housing for those most vulnerable in our society.

Dozens of new projects will create a thousand new housing units for seniors and persons with disabilities in communities across B.C.

Those new buildings will be made of wood and will provide new homes for seniors that will allow them to age in place.

Investments will be made in new and refurbished housing. We will expand supportive housing to combat homelessness and to shelter those with mental illnesses.

That new housing will be supported by a new integrated, personalized homelessness intervention strategy and a new community safety strategy.

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All of these opportunities for economic growth are catalysts for confidence.

They point to a new future that will enrich our province in every region.

Nothing has done more to rekindle confidence and pride in our province than the promise of the 2010 Olympics.

Nothing has done more to leverage investment in British Columbia or to drive new job growth in capital construction across B.C.

Nothing will do more to stimulate global investment and job creation across the province than our Olympic advantage.

It will truly launch us into the 21st century.

The Olympic torch lights the way to a brighter future for British Columbia.

It is the flame that burns deep within the human heart.

It is the flame of aspirations worth pursuing.

It is the flame of resolve that turns our dreams into realities.

British Columbia has been here before. Less than a decade ago we were a “have not” province. We managed through a multibillion dollar structural deficit, the tech market meltdown, the disruption of the 9/11 attacks, record forest fires and floods and the SARS outbreak.

Government had a plan. We executed it. Hundreds of thousands of jobs were created and record surpluses paid down debt. We came out stronger.

Now, more than ever, we need to reach for our aspirations and let them guide us.

We must not let today’s economic pain dampen our spirit or keep us from our goals. We have always been driven by dreams in good times and in bad.

We will not be bullied by the moment.

Now more than ever we must dedicate ourselves to the good of our children and grandchildren and to all the future holds for them as British Columbians.

Let us not flinch from the difficult tests that lie ahead or from our responsibilities to the generations that follow.

Let us resolve to move forward with confidence. Our strength lies in the people who live here and the beliefs for which we stand.

Let us act anew, in this ever-changing world, to capture the strength of this great province and all who live here.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

Mr. Speaker reported that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of His Honour’s Speech.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. Oppal* (Attorney General), Bill (No. 1) intituled *An Act to Ensure the Supremacy of Parliament* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of the Hon. *M. de Jong*, seconded by Mr. *Farnworth*, it was *Ordered*—

That *Sindi Hawkins*, Member for Kelowna-Mission Electoral District, be appointed a Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *M. de Jong*, seconded by Mr. *Farnworth*, it was *Ordered*—

That *Katherine Whittred*, Member for North Vancouver-Lonsdale Electoral District, be appointed a Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of Mr. *Farnworth*, seconded by the Hon. *M. de Jong*, it was *Ordered*—

That *Sue Hammell*, Member for Surrey-Green Timbers Electoral District, be appointed Assistant Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *M. de Jong*, seconded by Mr. *Farnworth*, it was *Ordered*—

That *Harry Bloy*, Member for Burquitlam Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. Oppal* (Attorney General), it was *Ordered*—

That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

The Hon. *G. Campbell* (Premier) moved that the Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes:

1. Aboriginal Affairs;
2. Education;
3. Finance and Government Services;
4. Health;
5. Public Accounts;
6. Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills;
7. Crown Corporations;
8. Children and Youth;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by this House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and that a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the above Select Standing Committees of this House under Standing Order 68 (1), the Committee to be composed of the Hon. *M. de Jong* (Convener), *Randy Hawes*, *Daniel Jarvis*, *John Nuraney*, *Valerie Roddick*, *Mike Farnworth*, *John Horgan*, *Katrine Conroy* and *Jenny Wai Ching Kwan*.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 3.10 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Tuesday, February 17, 2009**

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Routley*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

By leave, the Hon. *M. de Jong* moved—

That effective immediately, the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia be amended as follows for the duration of the Fifth Session of the Thirty-eighth Parliament, which commenced on February 16, 2009:

1. That Standing Order 2 (1) is deleted and the following substituted:

*Sittings*

**Daily sittings.**

2. (1) The time for the ordinary meeting of the House shall, unless otherwise ordered, be as follows:

Monday:	Two distinct sittings:
	10 a.m. to 12 noon
	1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Two distinct sittings:  
 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: Two distinct sittings:  
 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

2. That Standing Order 3 be deleted and the following substituted:

**Hour of interruption.**

3. If at the hour of 6:30 p.m. on any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the business of the day is not concluded and no other hour has been agreed on for the next sitting, the Speaker shall leave the Chair:

On Monday until 10 a.m. Tuesday  
 On Tuesday until 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday  
 On Wednesday until 10 a.m. on Thursday  
 On Thursday until 10 a.m. on Monday

subject to the provisions of Standing Order 2 (2) (b).

Motion agreed to.

Mr. *Rustad* moved, seconded by Mr. *Les*—

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia in Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us at the opening of the present Session.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Sultan*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

**Tuesday, February 17, 2009**

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Sather* presented a petition regarding the Albion Ferry.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion of the Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance), it was *Ordered*—

That this House, at its next sitting, resolve itself for this Session into a Committee to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.



The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:  
Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2010; and  
Supplement to the Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2010;  
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,  
February 12, 2009.*

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*Ordered*, that the Message, and the Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) moved, seconded by the Hon. *G. Campbell* (Premier) “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

A debate arose, which was, on the motion of Mr. *Ralston*, adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 2) intituled *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,  
February 16, 2009.*

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Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) tabled the following documents:

Budget and Fiscal Plan 2009/10 – 2011/12 required under section 7 of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*;

Government’s 2009/10 – 2011/12 Strategic Plan required under the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*;

Ministry Service Plans: Office of the Premier; Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development; Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and Integrated Land Management Bureau; Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism; Ministry of Children and Family Development; Ministry of Community Development; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; Ministry of Environment including BC Climate Action Secretariat and Environmental Assessment Office; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Forests and Range; Ministry of Health Services; Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport;

Ministry of Housing and Social Development; Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General; BC Public Service Agency; Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development; Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure;

Crown Agency Service Plans: BC Assessment Authority; BC Games Society; BC Housing Management Commission; BC Hydro and Power Authority; BC Immigrant Investment Fund Ltd.; BC Innovation Council; BC Liquor Distribution Branch; BC Lottery Corporation; BC Pavilion Corporation; BC Railway Company; BC Securities Commission; BC Transit; BC Transmission Corporation; Columbia Basin Trust; Columbia Power Corporation; Community Living BC; First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council; Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.; Homeowner Protection Office; Industry Training Authority; Insurance Corporation of British Columbia; Knowledge Network Corporation Legal Services Society; Oil and Gas Commission; Pacific Carbon Trust; Partnerships BC; Provincial Capital Commission; Royal BC Museum Corporation; Tourism BC;

Added to the Government reporting entity by regulation: Private Career Training Institutions Agency; and

List of Organizations that have been exempted from Section 13 of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, and for which service plans are not being filed.

And then the House adjourned at 3.15 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Wednesday, February 18, 2009**

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Hammell*.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled the Auditor General 2008/2009 Report 15: Wireless Networking Security in Victoria Government Offices: Gaps in the Defensive Line.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Chudnovsky*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.22 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Thursday, February 19, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Trevena*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

By leave, the Hon. *M. de Jong* moved—

The Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council the appointment of Ms. Joy Illington as the Acting Merit Commissioner for the Province of British Columbia pursuant to section 5.01 (6) of the *Public Service Act*, effective from May 26, 2009, until the date upon which a Merit Commissioner is appointed pursuant to the *Public Service Act*, RSBC 1996 c. 385.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2009;  
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*February 18, 2009.*

*Ordered*, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The House recessed until 10.45 a.m.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates—Other Appropriations, Contingencies, Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, Ministry of Community Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health Services, Ministry of Housing and Social Development, Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure).

(IN COMMITTEE)

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The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

**Thursday, February 19, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

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The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.22 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Monday, February 23, 2009**

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TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *MacKay*.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled a Joint Special Report of the Representative for Children and Youth and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer—*Kids, Crime and Care—Health and Well-Being of Children in Care: Youth Justice Experiences and Outcomes*, February 23, 2009.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order called for “Private Members’ Statements.”

**5** By leave, Mr. *Sultan* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize the importance of free trade—as embodied by agreements like NAFTA and TILMA—in helping our economy through the current global economic downturn.

A debate arose.

Mr. *Fraser* reserved his right to raise a matter of privilege.

On the motion of Mr. *Les*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

**Monday, February 23, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Sather* presented a petition regarding the Albion Ferry.

Mr. *S. Simpson* presented a petition requesting amendments to the British Columbia *Human Rights Code* regarding gender identity.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

22 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$186,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Community Development, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

23 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$40,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, BC Public Service Agency, to 31st March, 2009.

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The Committee rose and reported the Resolutions.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.28 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Tuesday, February 24, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Les*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

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The Committee rose and reported progress.  
 Report to be considered at the next sitting.  
 Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

By notice from Ms. *James* to the Table, Motion No. 8 was withdrawn from the Order Paper.

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

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**Tuesday, February 24, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Fraser* rose on a matter of privilege regarding comments made by the Member for Nanaimo-Parksville on the subject of logging in the Englishman River.

The Hon. *M. de Jong* reserved the right to respond.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics) tabled a Summary of Ministerial Accountability for Operating Expenses for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2009, Revised Schedule I (No. 3), February 19, 2009.

By leave, the Hon. *M. de Jong* moved—

That the following Members comprise the membership of the Select Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly for the 5th session of the 38th Parliament:

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—*Katherine Whittred* (Convener), *Al Horning*, *Dennis MacKay*, *Claude Richmond*, *Val Roddick*, *John Les*, *David Chudnovsky*, *Gary Coons*, *Scott Fraser* and *Harry Lali*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH—*Claude Richmond* (Convener), *Dennis MacKay*, *Val Roddick*, *John Rustad*, *Richard T. Lee*, *John Les*, *Nicholas Simons*, *Jagrup Brar*, *Maurine Karagianis* and *Leonard Krog*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN CORPORATIONS—*John Rustad* (Convener), *Olga Ilich*, *Dennis MacKay*, *John Yap*, *Val Roddick*, *Rick Thorpe*, *John Horgan*, *Corky Evans*, *Harry Lali* and *Shane Simpson*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION—*John Nuraney* (Convener), *Daniel Jarvis*, *Richard T. Lee*, *Rick Thorpe*, *John Rustad*, *John Yap*, *David Cubberley*, *Rob Fleming*, *Norm Macdonald* and *Doug Routley*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES—*Randy Hawes* (Convener), *Harry Bloy*, *Dave S. Hayer*, *Richard T. Lee*, *John Rustad*, *John Yap*, *Bruce Ralston*, *Robin Austin*, *John Horgan* and *Diane Thorne*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—*Rob Fleming* (Convener), *Rick Thorpe*, *Randy Hawes*, *John Yap*, *Claude Richmond*, *Olga Ilich*, *John Rustad*, *Ralph Sultan*, *Harry Bains*, *Bob Simpson*, *Bruce Ralston* and *Claire Trevena*.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. *Routley* presented a petition regarding a moratorium on ferry fare increases.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

36 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$30,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Housing and Social Development, Housing and Construction Standards, to 31st March, 2009.

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The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Wednesday, February 25, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O’CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Sultan*.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

Mr. *Fraser* presented a petition regarding antifreeze containing ethylene glycol.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

37 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$120,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Health Services, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

—————  
The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.26 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Thursday, February 26, 2009**

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TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Roddick*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

The Hon. *M. de Jong* made representations regarding the point of privilege raised on Tuesday by Mr. *Fraser*.

The Speaker stated that he would take the matter under advisement.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

38 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$2,200,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Labour and Citizens’ Services, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

—————  
The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.



**Thursday, February 26, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *B. Simpson* reserved his right to raise a matter of privilege.

The Hon. *M. Coell* (Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development) tabled the Annual Report of the business done pursuant to the *Public Service Benefit Plan Act*, for the year ended March 31, 2008.

By leave, the Hon. *M. de Jong* moved—

That the following Members comprise the membership of the following Select Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly for the 5th session of the 38th Parliament:

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH—*Ralph Sultan* (Convener), *Dave S. Hayer*, *Dan Jarvis*, *John Nuraney*, *Val Roddick*, *Katherine Whittred*, *Adrian Dix*, *Guy Gentner*, *David Chudnovsky* and *Raj Chouhan*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES—*Al Horning* (Convener), *Harry Bloy*, *Randy Hawes*, *Ralph Sultan*, *Dave S. Hayer*, *Mike Farnworth*, *Bob Simpson*, *Katrine Conroy* and *Jenny Kwan*.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM, ETHICAL CONDUCT, STANDING ORDERS AND PRIVATE BILLS—*Al Horning* (Convener), *Harry Bloy*, *Randy Hawes*, *Dave S. Hayer*, *Val Roddick*, *Mike Farnworth*, *Adrian Dix*, *Jenny Kwan* and *Katrine Conroy*.

Motion agreed to.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

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The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.14 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Monday, March 2, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Krog*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order called for "Private Members' Statements."

**22** By leave, Ms. *James* moved—

Be it resolved that this House affirm the importance of full public disclosure regarding the costs of the Olympics and discuss and debate the appointment of the Auditor General of the Province of British Columbia as the auditor of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, with established monthly reporting commitments to the Legislative Assembly through the Public Accounts Committee.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Fleming*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

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**Monday, March 2, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The Speaker delivered his reserved decision as follows:

*Honourable Members:*

On February 24th the Member for Alberni-Qualicum rose in his place on what he described as a matter of privilege alleging that the Minister of Agriculture and Lands misled the House during Question Period on February 19th and 23rd, 2009.

On Thursday, February 26th the Government House Leader responded to the Member's submission and I have carefully considered both the Member's submission and the Government House Leader's reply.

I have also carefully reviewed the authorities quoted to the House and the authorities on the law of privilege.

Before dealing with the substantive issue, there are one or two technical matters which merit comment. In a decision of this House on July 21, 1993, and quoted with approval on July 15, 1996, one of the essential elements required when raising a matter of privilege is that a copy of the motion the Member intends to move, should the Chair find a *prima facie* case has been established, must be tabled. No such proposed motion was tabled by the Member for Alberni-Qualicum. The Government House Leader in his presentation also noted that the matter may not have been raised at the earliest opportunity and I have considered this submission as well. However, the substantive portion of the submission from the Member for Alberni-Qualicum is what the Chair has focused upon in this matter.

The essence of this allegation is that the Member must establish that the Minister deliberately misled the House—a considerable burden which the Member has failed to establish.

While there is clearly a difference of opinion between the Member and the Minister as to the number of trees cut, the number of logs removed, the groups who were consulted and the end result of the logging operation, I am satisfied that this controversy clearly fits the category as a dispute as to facts which in itself does not qualify as a matter of privilege.

Let me remind all Honourable Members that an accusation of deliberately misleading the House is a serious accusation and must rest on a solid foundation. I find that the necessary elements have not been established to sustain a charge of deliberately misleading the House, and I so rule.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Hawes* reserved his right to raise a matter of privilege.

Mr. *B. Simpson* presented a petition regarding maintenance of roadways in the Cariboo-Chilcotin communities.

Mr. *Routley* presented a petition regarding the wait time for weight-loss surgery.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

42 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$15,100,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

The Committee rose and reported the Resolution.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.28 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Tuesday, March 3, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Wyse*.

On the motion of Ms. *Karagianis*, Bill (No. M 201) intituled *First Nations Heritage Protection and Conservation Act, 2009* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

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The Committee rose and reported progress.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

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## Tuesday, March 3, 2009

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ONE-THIRTY O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(IN COMMITTEE)

43 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$20,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

24 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$83,700,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Finance, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2009.

---

The Committee rose and reported the Resolutions.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 6.27 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Wednesday, March 4, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Fleming*.

The Hon. *J. van Dongen* (Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 6) intituled *Police (Misconduct, Complaints, Investigations, Discipline and Proceedings) Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*March 3, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *J. van Dongen* (Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 7) intituled *Police (Police Complaint Commissioner) Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*March 4, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Sather* presented a petition regarding the Albion Ferry.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

## (IN COMMITTEE)

45 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$125,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Other Appropriations, Contingencies (All Ministries) and New Programs, to 31st March, 2009.

---

The Committee reported the Resolution.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolutions from the Committee of Supply on February 23, 24, 25, 26, March 2, 3 and 4, 2009, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$622,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2008-2009* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$180,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 2 of the *Supply Act, 2008-2009* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the capital expenditures, loans, investments and other financing requirements of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 3) intituled *Supply Act, 2008-2009 (Supplementary Estimates)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*February 16, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker declared a short recess for distribution of the Bill.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 3) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 5) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*February 19, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *M. de Jong* (Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 4) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*February 24, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 2) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Gentner*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Thursday, March 5, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Evans*.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled the Auditor General 2008/2009 Report 16: Homelessness: *Clear Focus Needed*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *P. Bell*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 5) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Ralston*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.54 a.m.

---

**Thursday, March 5, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of Mr. *Herbert*, Bill (No. M 202) intituled *Consumer Protection in Ticket Sales Act, 2009* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 5) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009*.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Ms. *Karagianis*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.19 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*



**Monday, March 9, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Nuraney*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order called for "Private Members' Statements."

**23** By leave, Mr. *Les* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize the necessity of fiscal restraint to protect our children and grandchildren from bearing the burden of today's economic difficulties.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Thorpe*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

---

**Monday, March 9, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *I. Black* (Minister of Labour and Citizens' Services) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 8) intituled *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*March 5, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled the Legislative Library Annual Report, 2008.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 5) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009*.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 5) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Bill (No. 2) intituled *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Speaker made the following statement:

*Honourable Members:*

Earlier today during Question Period the Member for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant in addressing a question to the Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics accused him of providing false information to the House. Upon the Speaker requesting that the Member withdraw the offending statement, she did so without hesitation.

The Member then went on to say, “The Minister provides misleading information to this House, budget after budget....” Such an accusation, while intemperate, does not fall into the category of remarks which require an immediate withdrawal, and I was in error in requesting the Honourable Member for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant to withdraw that latter accusation.

To clarify matters somewhat, I wish to advise the House that any advice I received on this occasion was the perfectly correct advice, but at that moment I slipped into error and tender my apologies to both the Member and the House.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Farnworth*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Tuesday, March 10, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *MacKay*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009*.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Coons*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

---

**Tuesday, March 10, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009*.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 4) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Bill (No. 5) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Herbert*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Wednesday, March 11, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Rustad*.

The Hon. *J. van Dongen* (Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 10) intituled *Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*March 10, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 4) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009*, was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 8) intituled *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 8) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Lee*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.23 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Thursday, March 12, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Roddick*.

The Hon. *W. Oppal* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism) tabled the Report of the Davies Commission of Inquiry into the death of Frank Paul.

The Hon. *M. Coell* (Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 9) intituled *Labour Mobility Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*March 5, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Lee*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.54 a.m.

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**Thursday, March 12, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of Mr. *Ralston*, Bill (No. M 203) intituled *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, 2009* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Bill (No. 8) intituled *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. McIntyre*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair—

*Kate Ryan-Lloyd*, Clerk Assistant and Committee Clerk, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 2) *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2009*.

Bill (No. 4) *Ministerial Accountability Bases Act, 2008-2009*.

Bill (No. 8) *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2009*.

His Honour was pleased in Her Majesty’s name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Kate Ryan-Lloyd*, Clerk Assistant and Committee Clerk, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Acts.”

*Kate Ryan-Lloyd*, Clerk Assistant and Committee Clerk, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 3) *Supply Act, 2008-2009 (Supplementary Estimates)*.

Bill (No. 5) *Supply Act (No. 1), 2009*.

His Honour was pleased in Her Majesty’s name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Kate Ryan-Lloyd*, Clerk Assistant and Committee Clerk, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank Her Majesty’s loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these Acts.”

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

And then the House adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

**Monday, March 23, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Krog*.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled the Ombudsman Public Report No. 45: Last Resort: Improving Fairness and Accountability in British Columbia's Income Assistance Program.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order called for "Private Members' Statements."

**9** By leave, Ms. *Trevena* moved—

Be it resolved that this House agree to apply the spirit of "Jordan's Principle" to ensure that children will be made first priority when it comes to health and safety needs and that jurisdictional disputes are secondary to the health and welfare of children and families on reserve.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Wyse*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

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**Monday, March 23, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics) presented to the Speaker a Message from the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH  
*Administrator*

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 12) intituled *Strata Property Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,*  
*March 19, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the Olympics) presented to the Speaker a Message from the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH  
*Administrator*

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 11) intituled *Pension Benefits Standards Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,*  
*March 19, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Chouhan* presented a petition to stop the proposed Burnaby remand facility.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Horgan*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.22 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Routley*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Fleming*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.



**Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *P. Bell* (Minister of Forests and Range) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH  
*Administrator*

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 13) intituled *Forest Amendment Act, 2009* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,*  
*March 19, 2009.*

---

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—38

*Falcon*  
*Reid*  
*Coell*  
*McIntyre*  
*Chong*  
*Christensen*  
*Polak*  
*Bell*  
*Krueger*  
*Bennett*

*Black*  
*Hogg*  
*Les*  
*Hayer*  
*Lee*  
*Nuraney*  
*Horning*  
*Bloy*  
*Lekstrom*  
*Oppal*

*de Jong*  
*Campbell*  
*Hansen*  
*Bond*  
*van Dongen*  
*Abbott*  
*Penner*  
*Coleman*  
*Cantelon*

*Thorpe*  
*Roddick*  
*Sultan*  
*Whittred*  
*Hawes*  
*Yap*  
*MacKay*  
*Richmond*  
*Rustad*

## NAYS—22

S. Simpson  
McGinn  
Farnworth  
Ralston  
B. Simpson  
Wyse

Brar  
Thorne  
Fraser  
Sather  
Chudnovsky  
Dix

Trevena  
Bains  
Karagianis  
Krog  
Coons

Routley  
Hammell  
Lali  
Cubberley  
Conroy

And then the House adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Wednesday, March 25, 2009**

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Trevena*

On the motion of Mr. *Horgan*, Bill (No. M 204) intituled *Government Integrity Act, 2009* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled *Police (Police Complaint Commissioner) Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 7) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 10) intituled *Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 10) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 11) intituled *Pension Benefits Standards Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 11) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 13) intituled *Forest Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 13) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

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**Thursday, March 26, 2009**

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TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Thorne*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 13) intituled *Forest Amendment Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 7) intituled *Police (Police Complaint Commissioner) Amendment Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

And then the House adjourned at 12.01 p.m.

---

**Thursday, March 26, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Fraser*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.19 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Sultan*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order called for "Private Members' Statements."

**27** By leave, Mr. *Sultan* moved—

Be it resolved that this House supports the return to balanced budgets in two years.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Hawes*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

---

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

---

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 10) intituled *Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 11) intituled *Pension Benefits Standards Amendment Act, 2009* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled *Labour Mobility Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Wyse*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6.24 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

---

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Sultan*.

The Hon. *B. Penner* (Minister of Environment and Minister Responsible for Water Stewardship and Sustainable Communities) tabled the Environmental Appeal Board Annual Report, 2007/2008.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) tabled the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Vancouver-Burrard and Vancouver-Fairview By-elections.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled *Labour Mobility Act, 2009*.

Bill (No. 9) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 12) intituled *Strata Property Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 12) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 6) intituled *Police (Misconduct, Complaints, Investigations, Discipline and Proceedings) Amendment Act, 2009*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 6) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

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**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

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ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Speaker) made a statement thanking retiring Members.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *W. Oppal* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism) tabled the *Crown Proceeding Act* Report for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2008.

The Hon. *B. Lekstrom* (Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) tabled the Capital Project Plan for Sierra Yoyo Desan Road Capital Upgrade and Paving, March 30, 2009.

Mr. *Fleming* presented the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts for the Fourth Session of the Thirty-eighth Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

**1** Mr. *Macdonald* moved, seconded by Mr. *Farnworth*—

Be it resolved that the Motion for the Address in Reply be amended by adding the following: “But this assembly regrets that the Throne Speech fails to address the need for attention to be paid to rural British Columbians, particularly those who have been reliant on the forest industry where over 22,000 jobs have disappeared, that the government refuses to promote and protect jobs for all British Columbians, failing to address the fact that over 68,000 British Columbians lost their jobs according to the last monthly Statistics Canada report, that after eight years of service cuts and higher costs for average families this government continues to put their friends and pet projects ahead of the needs of everyday families, that this government failed to even mention the serious issue of community safety and gang crime and has failed in providing health care and education as is witnessed by eight years of hospital waiting lists, school closures, privatization, emergency room overcrowding and the long term care crisis.”

The debate on the amendment continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *I. Chong*, debate on the amendment was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair—

*E. George MacMinn*, Q.C., Clerk of the House, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 7) *Police (Police Complaint Commissioner) Amendment Act, 2009.*

Bill (No. 10) *Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2009.*

Bill (No. 11) *Pension Benefits Standards Amendment Act, 2009.*

Bill (No. 13) *Forest Amendment Act, 2009.*

His Honour was pleased in Her Majesty’s name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *E. George MacMinn*, Q.C., Clerk of the House, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Acts.”

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

The Hon. *M. de Jong* moved—

That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until it appears to the satisfaction of the Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House shall meet, or until the Speaker may be advised by the Government that it is desired to prorogue the Fifth Session of the Thirty-eighth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia. The Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied or has been so advised and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice, and, as the case may be, may transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time and date; and

That, in the event of the Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Deputy Speaker shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 6.18 p.m.

HON. BILL BARISOFF, *Speaker*

## DISSOLUTION

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor by His Proclamation issued on the 14th day of April 2009, was pleased to dissolve the Thirty-eighth Legislative Assembly of the Province.

## PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

STEVEN L. POINT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

CANADA:  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

*To all to whom these presents shall come*—GREETING

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS We have thought fit to dissolve the thirty-eighth Legislative Assembly of Our said Province

Now KNOW THAT, We do, for this end, publish this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby dissolve the thirty-eighth Legislative Assembly accordingly on April 14, 2009, and the members thereof are discharged from further attendance on the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, the Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this fourteenth day of April, two thousand nine and in the fifty-eighth year of Our Reign.

By Command.