



January 21, 2016

Ref: 165795

Ms. Susan Knott
Chair, Board of Directors
Royal BC Museum
675 Belleville Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9W2

Dear Ms. Knott:

This Mandate Letter confirms your organization's mandate, provides Government's annual strategic direction and sets out key performance expectations for the 2016/17 fiscal year.

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, thank you for your leadership and the contributions made by the Royal BC Museum over the past year and congratulations on the efforts made towards the following achievements:

- Successful delivery of the Gold Rush exhibit promoting and educating British Columbians and tourists about the importance of the Gold Rush in the development of British Columbia.
- Advancing critical relationships with partners in China through collaboration with museums and touring exhibits.
- Launching the online Learning Portal and the Transcribe program, an engaging digital exhibit that highlights the personal history of British Columbians during the centennial of WWI.
- Publication of "Treasures of the Royal BC Museum and Archives" which features dramatic new photographs of the collections and exhibitions housed in western Canada's oldest, largest and best-loved museum.
- Launch of AtoM, (Access to Memory) application, featuring more than 1 million archival records, photographs and video.
- Collaborating on the agreement to transfer government archives, ensuring preservation and access to important government decisions for this and future generations.

Last year, Government established a common set of principles for the BC public sector organizations. The intent of the Taxpayer Accountability Principles (TAP) is to strengthen accountability and promote cost control. These principles instil a common frame of reference to inform decisions and ensure that the actions taken and services provided meet public policy objectives established by Government on behalf of the citizens of BC. All public sector organizations are expected to understand the responsibility they have to the citizens of BC and how it is complementary to the fiduciary duty to their organizations.

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One of Government's core values is respect for the taxpayer's dollar. It is critical that public sector organizations operate as efficiently as possible, in order to ensure British Columbians are provided with effective services at the lowest cost possible. This requires constant focus on maintaining a cost-conscious and principled culture through the efficient delivery of services that stand the test of public scrutiny and help develop a prosperous economy in an environmentally sustainable manner. The foundation of this work is the Government's commitment to controlling spending and balancing the budget.

Government provided the following mandate direction to the Royal BC Museum under the *Museum Act* (2003):

- The RBCM is required to fulfil the government's fiduciary role of public trustee to:
 - Secure, receive and preserve specimens, artifacts, and private archival records and other material that illustrate the natural and human history of British Columbia;
 - manage the museum archives of government;
 - communicate knowledge of human and natural history through exhibitions, research, publications and programs; and
 - hold and make accessible these collections for current and future generations of British Columbians.

To achieve this mandate, the Royal British Columbia Museum is directed to take the following strategic actions:

- In collaboration with stakeholders, provide world class visitor experiences by promoting special exhibits to support the *BC Jobs Plan* and the *Gaining the Edge* tourism strategy, and maximizing utilization of the existing collection by refreshing the permanent galleries.
- Support the implementation of the Province's plan to grow the creative economy by further developing the RBCM's China strategy to increase research, collections, exhibition touring, cultural relationships and tourism by building partnerships with cultural organizations in key international markets.
- Continue implementation of the new learning strategy by developing, delivering and promoting at least one new digital engagement program.
- With guidance from the RBCM's First Nations Advisory Council, respond to the relevant Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations related to museums and archives in future programming and planning.
- RBCM will take a leadership role in pursuing opportunities to ensure British Columbia's unique history is represented throughout the province in the lead up to Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017.

To achieve this, several actions as detailed in the 2014 TAP Transition Letter, are to continue to be implemented and refined, such as, ongoing orientation, the joint strategic engagement plan, and the evaluation plan. For detailed information about TAP directives, please refer to the following website: http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/ministries-organizations/central-agencies/crown-agencies-resource-office/taxpayer_accountability_principles.pdf.

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In addition, it is expected that your organization will continue to be diligent in ensuring familiarity with and adherence to statutory obligations and policies that have broad application across the public sector. Please refer to the following website for a summary of these accountabilities:

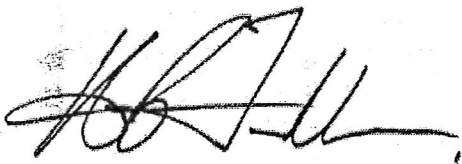
<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/ministries-organizations/central-agencies/crown-agencies-resource-office/public-sector-organization-accountabilities.pdf>.

Government is committed to continuing to revitalize the relationship between Government and PSOs. This strong focus on increased two-way communication supports and ensures a common understanding of Government's expectations. Timely communication of any issues which may affect the business of RBCM and/or the interests of Government is critical to building trust and the effective delivery of public services, including information on any risks to achieving financial forecasts and performance targets.

Each board member is required to acknowledge the direction provided in the Mandate Letter by signing this letter. The Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization's website and a copy signed by all board members provided to the ministry and made available to the public upon request.

I look forward to our regular meetings focusing on strategic priorities, performance against the TAP, key results and working together to protect the public interest at all times.

Sincerely,

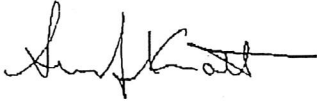


Peter Fassbender
Minister

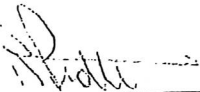
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Enclosure: Taxpayer Accountability Principles

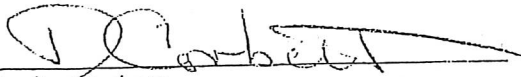
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Susan Knott
Chair
Royal BC Museum



Raymond Protti
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

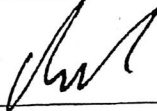


Daphne Corbett
Board Member
Royal BC Museum
Term expired on December 31, 2015

Garth Evans
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Term expired on December 31, 2015

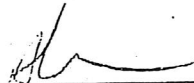
Mark Palmer-Edgecumbe
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



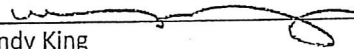
Peeter Wesik
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



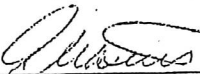
David Adams
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



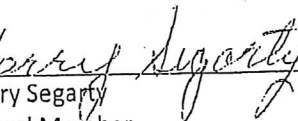
Heidi Dale-Johnson
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



Wendy King
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



Angela Wesley
Board Member
Royal BC Museum



Terry Segarty
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

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pc: Honourable Christy Clark
Premier

Mr. John Dyble
Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary

Ms. Kim Henderson
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland
Associate Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Jacquie Dawes
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Mr. Raymond Protti
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Mr. David Adams
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Ms. Daphne Corbett
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Ms. Heidi Dale-Johnson
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Mr. Garth Evans
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Ms. Wendy King
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

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Mr. Mark Palmer-Edgecumbe
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Ms. Angela Wesley
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Mr. Peeter Wesik
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Mr. Terry Segarty
Board Member
Royal BC Museum

Mr. Jack Lohman
Chief Executive Officer
Royal BC Museum

B.C. Taxpayer Accountability Principles

Further information available at: <http://gov.bc.ca/crownaccountabilities>

1	Cost Consciousness (Efficiency)	Strengthen cost management capabilities and foster a culture of cost-consciousness at all levels of public sector organizations. Provide public services and programs as efficiently and effectively as possible to “bend the cost curve” and support sustainable public policies and programs as a lasting legacy for generations to come.
2	Accountability	Transparently manage responsibilities according to a set of common public sector principles in the best interest of the citizens of the province. By enhancing organizational efficiency and effectiveness in the planning, reporting and decision making, public sector organizations will ensure actions are aligned with government’s strategic mandate.
3	Appropriate Compensation	Comply with a rigorous, standardized approach to performance management and employee compensation, which reflects appropriate compensation for work across the public sector that is consistent with government’s taxpayer accountability principles and respectful of the taxpayer.
4	Service	Maintain a clear focus on positive outcomes for citizens of British Columbia by delivering cost-efficient, effective, value-for-money public services and programs.
5	Respect	Engage in equitable, compassionate, respectful and effective communications that ensure all parties are properly informed or consulted on actions, decisions and public communications in a timely manner. Proactively collaborate in a spirit of partnership that respects the use of taxpayers’ monies.
6	Integrity	Make decisions and take actions that are transparent, ethical and free from conflict of interest. Require the establishment of a strong ethical code of conduct for all employees and executives. Serve the citizens of British Columbia by respecting the shared public trust and acting in accordance with the taxpayer accountability principles.

