



Ref: 147626

February 18, 2020

Dr. Alan Shaver
Chair, Board of Directors
Innovate BC
9th Floor, 1188 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 4A2

Dear Dr. Shaver:

I would like to extend appreciation on behalf of the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, and the Executive Council for your dedication, and that of your board members, in leading your organization and helping Government deliver on our priorities to British Columbians.

Government remains focused on its three strategic priorities: making life more affordable, delivering better services, and investing in a sustainable economy.

Every public sector organization is accountable to the citizens of British Columbia (BC). The expectations of BC citizens are identified through their elected representatives, the members of the Legislative Assembly.

This mandate letter, which I am sending in my capacity as Minister responsible for Innovate BC, on behalf of the Executive Council, communicates those expectations for your agency. It sets out overarching Government priorities that will inform your agency's policies and programs, as well as specific direction on priorities and expectations for the coming fiscal year.

Our goal is to build a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone. We are committed to working with you and other Crown Agencies to provide quality, cost-effective services to BC families and businesses. By adopting the Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens and Framework for Improving British Columbian's Standard of Living to policy development, we will ensure that equity is reflected in Government budgets, policies and programs. You are encouraged to apply the GBA+ lens in your Crown Agency operations and programs. In the same vein, appointments to agencies, boards and commissions reflect Government's direction to promote equity and leadership at senior levels in the public and private sectors, with a view to building strong public sector boards that reflect the diversity of BC.

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Two key priorities that will underpin lasting prosperity are advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and moving towards a low-carbon economy.

In November 2019, Government passed the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Act) which represents a crucial step towards true and lasting reconciliation. In keeping with the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Act was developed in collaboration with the First Nations Leadership Council to create a framework for reconciliation in BC. All Crown Agencies are expected to incorporate the Act and Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission within their specific mandate and context.

Announced in December 2018, the CleanBC plan puts our province on the path to a cleaner, better future—with a low-carbon economy that creates opportunities while protecting our clean air, land, and water. As part of the new accountability framework established in CleanBC, and consistent with the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, please ensure your organization plans to align operations with targets and strategies for minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and managing climate change risk. Please be prepared to work with Government to report out on these plans and activities.

The Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO), with the Ministry of Finance, will continue to support you and your Board on recruitment and appointments as needed, and will be expanding professional development opportunities in 2020/21. This will include online training modules and in-person conferences, as Government works to support strong public sector boards that reflect the diversity of BC.

Finally, having Canada's Digital Supercluster located in BC creates an opportunity for industries, Government ministries, crown agencies, public institutions and non-government organizations to collaborate in digital research and development projects. Should Innovate BC intend to participate in or be a funding partner for Digital Supercluster projects, you are asked to work closely with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness (Ministry) staff to ensure that investments are aligned with Government's priorities and wherever possible undertaken collectively with partner ministries and organizations. The Ministry will work with the Deputy Minister's Committee on the Digital Supercluster to ensure that projects are coordinated effectively across Government.

As the Minister Responsible for Innovate BC, I expect that you will make substantive progress on the following priorities and incorporate them in the goals, objectives and performance measures in your 2020/21 Service Plan:

- Provide input into Government's development of science, technology and innovation policy, particularly related to program development.
- In alignment with Government's strategic direction, continue to build and maintain strategic partnerships with technology and innovation stakeholders in industry, academia, other governments, and across regions.

- Continue to develop and deliver tools, resources, expert guidance, programs and initiatives that strengthen entrepreneurship development, increase company growth and support job creation, ensuring that the benefits of technology and innovation are felt around the province, including rural, northern and Indigenous communities.
- Support Government in the implementation of strategic initiatives that strengthen BC's position as a preferred location for new and emerging technologies, by meeting with Government regularly to:
 - work collaboratively with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness to develop and implement programs and initiatives that directly support and accelerate technology commercialization in BC;
 - ensure that programs align with Government strategic direction; and
 - report on program outcomes using strong performance metrics.

Each Board member is required to sign the Mandate Letter to acknowledge Government's direction to your organization. The signed Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization's website in spring 2020.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and your Board colleagues to build a better BC

Sincerely,



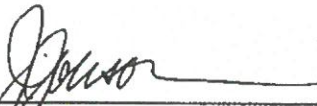
Michelle Mungall
Minister of Jobs, Economic Development
and Competitiveness



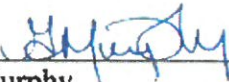
Alan Shaver
Chair, Innovate BC



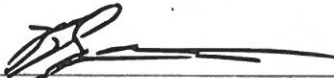
Michael Fergusson
Director, Innovate BC



Joy Johnson
Director, Innovate BC



Gail Murphy
Director, Innovate BC



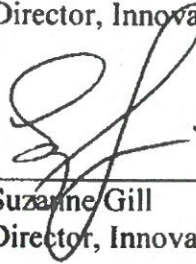
Benjamin Sparrow
Director, Innovate BC



Denise Williams
Director, Innovate BC



Lesley Esford
Director, Innovate BC



Suzanne Gill
Director, Innovate BC



David Krysko
Director, Innovate BC



Thomas Roemer
Director, Innovate BC



Donald Stuckert
Director, Innovate BC

pc: Honourable John Horgan
Premier

Don Wright
Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wanamaker
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Heather Wood
Associate Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board
Ministry of Finance

Fazil Mihlar
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness

Lesley Esford
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Raghwa Gopal
President and Chief Executive Officer
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