



VIA EMAIL

Ref: 655915

August 18, 2023

R. Blain Lawson
General Manager and Chief Executive Officer
BC Liquor Distribution Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
3383 Gilmore Way
Burnaby BC V5G 4S1

Dear Blain Lawson:

I would like to extend my thanks to you and your executive leadership team for your dedication, expertise, and service to the people of British Columbia.

This letter, which I am sending in my capacity as Minister responsible for the BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB), sets out overarching principles relevant to the public sector and specific direction on priorities and expectations for the LDB for the remainder of Government's term.

Government must continue to advance results that people can see and feel in these key areas: strengthened health care, safer communities, attainable and secure housing, and a clean and fair economy that delivers affordability and prosperity. In doing so, you will continue working towards lasting and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in the province we are building together and delivering on specific commitments as outlined in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* action plan.

As required by the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, please ensure the LDB implements targets and strategies for minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and managing climate risk, including achieving carbon neutrality each year and aligning with the CleanBC target of a 50 per cent reduction in public sector building emissions and a 40 per cent reduction in public sector fleet emissions by 2030. As a branch of government, the LDB is expected to report out on these plans and activities.

Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. The public sector has a moral and ethical

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responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every branch of government has a role in this work. The adoption of the Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens is required to ensure gender equity is reflected in your operations and programs.

British Columbians expect that government operate in a responsible manner to deliver quality services equitably in all regions of the province. This requires strategic stewardship of planning, operations, and policies in the areas of financial, risk, and human resource management including information security and privacy protection.

The LDB must also demonstrate continued diligence and education to maintain an effective fraud risk management strategy, including, for example, strategies for minimizing large cash transactions.

In addition to continuing to make progress on your 2021 mandate letter, and working with the Crown Agencies Secretariat in the Ministry of Finance, I expect you to ensure the important priorities and areas of focus listed in this letter are incorporated into the practices of your organization and develop plans to address the following continuing priorities within your approved net income targets:

- Strengthening the LDB's focus on corporate social impact/responsibility through initiatives that align with government's social and environmental priorities;
- Continuing commitment to improve organizational effectiveness and management practices by building on existing strengths to enhance a productive work culture and bolster overall performance; and,
- Working with other government partners to refresh and refocus the LDB's work with the Business Technical Advisory Panel on areas that are mutually beneficial and straightforward to advance.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to meet the high standards set for us by all British Columbians.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Mary Sue Maloughney
Associate Deputy Minister, Crown Agencies Secretariat
Ministry of Finance

Kim Horn
Executive Lead, Crown Agencies Secretariat
Ministry of Finance