



# *Second Quarterly Report*



Ministry  
of Finance

***November 30, 2006***



# **Strong results in 2006**

# *Economic indicators show strong domestic performance*

	Apr - June 2006/ Jan - Mar 2006	Jul - Sept 2006/ Apr - June 2006	Jan – Sept 2006/ Jan – Sept 2005	Year-to-Date
(per cent change)				
<b>Employment</b>	<b>+0.7</b>	<b>+0.2</b>		<b>+3.3</b>
<b>Mfg Shipments</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>		<b>+3.2</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>-1.7</b>		<b>+1.0</b>
<b>Retail Sales</b>	<b>+2.4</b>	<b>+1.3</b>		<b>+6.8</b>
<b>Housing Starts</b>	<b>-13.1</b>	<b>+4.2</b>		<b>+9.2</b>
<b>Building Permits (Non-Residential)</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-2.9</b>		<b>+9.4</b>

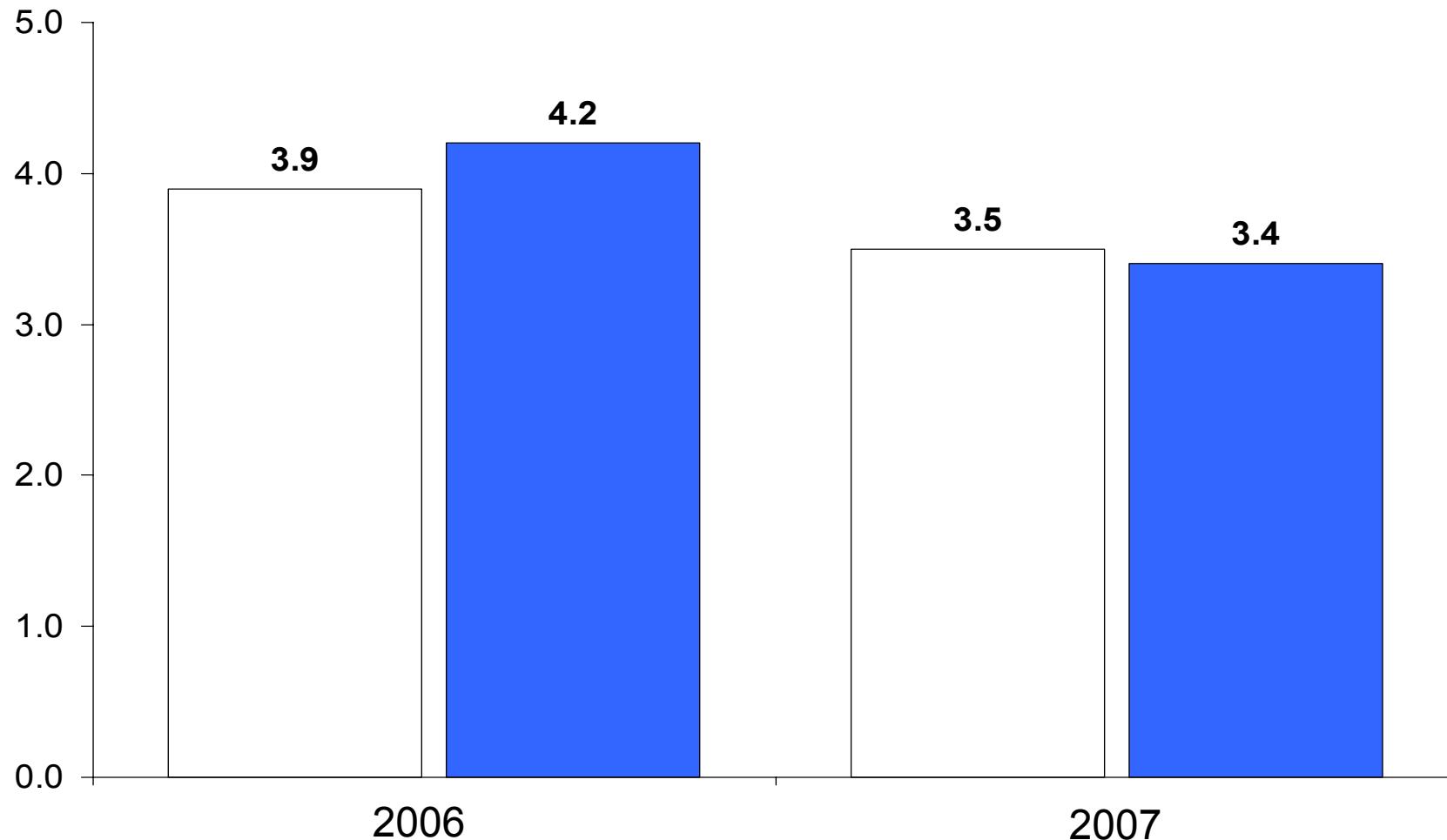
Sources: Statistics Canada; BCSTATS; Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation  
All data seasonally adjusted – as of November 21

# *Private sector short-term outlook positive*

BC Real GDP  
Per cent change

□ Private sector average (Aug.)

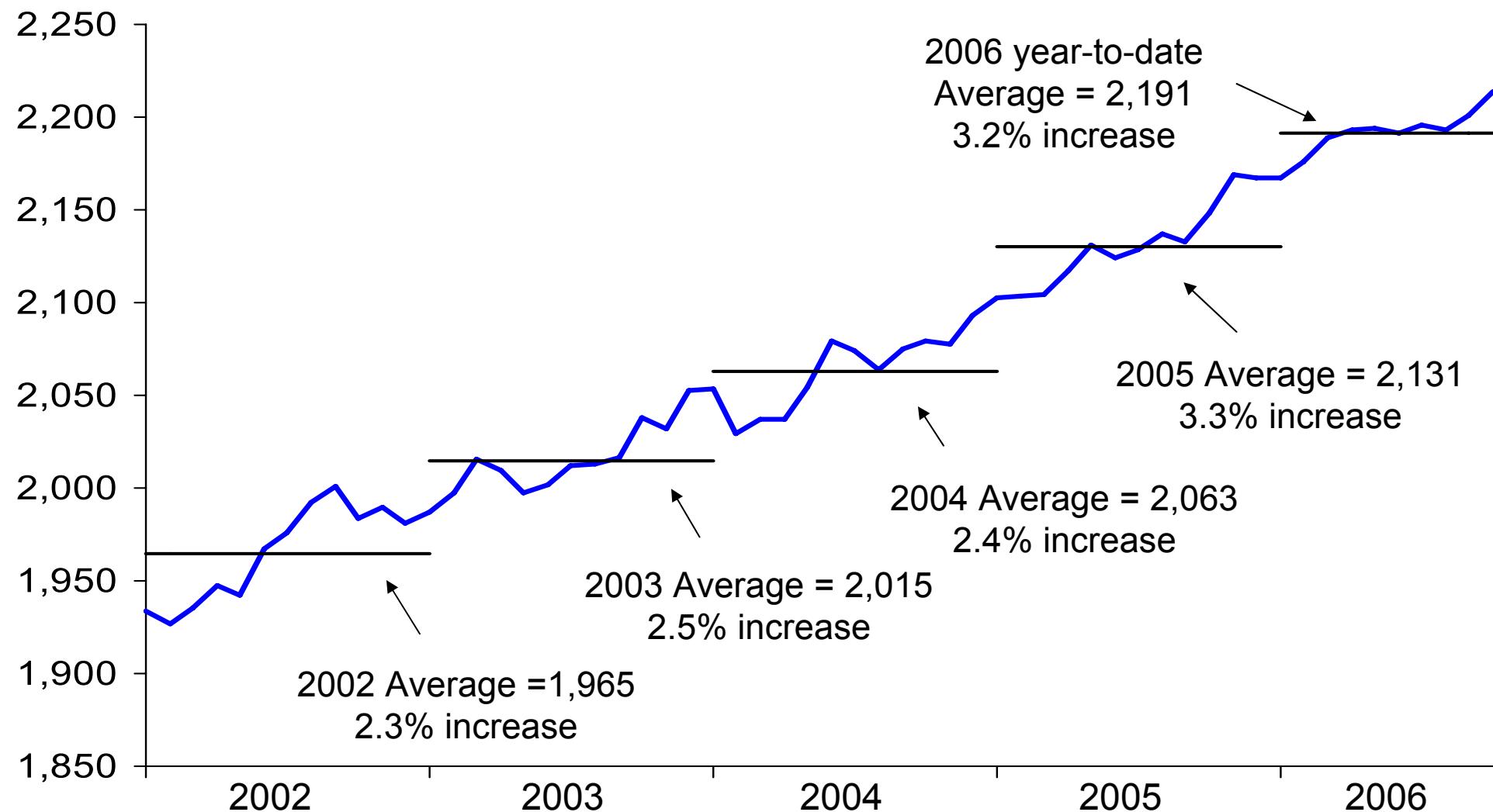
■ Private sector average (Nov.)



Sources: Private sector forecasters

# *Employment growth remains strong*

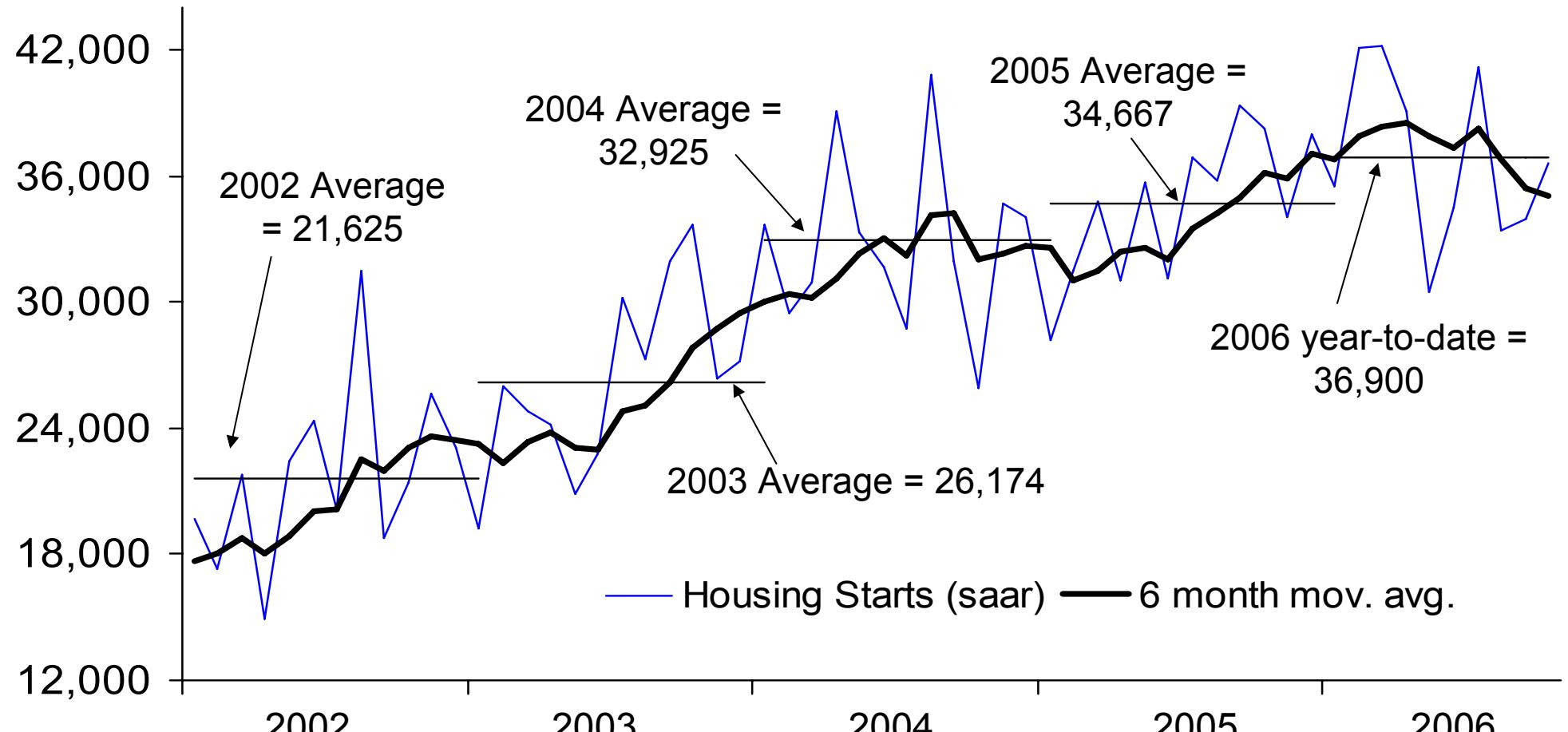
Thousands of jobs; seasonally adjusted



Source: Statistics Canada

# Housing starts have slowed but remain at high levels

Housing starts; number of units  
seasonally-adjusted at annual rates



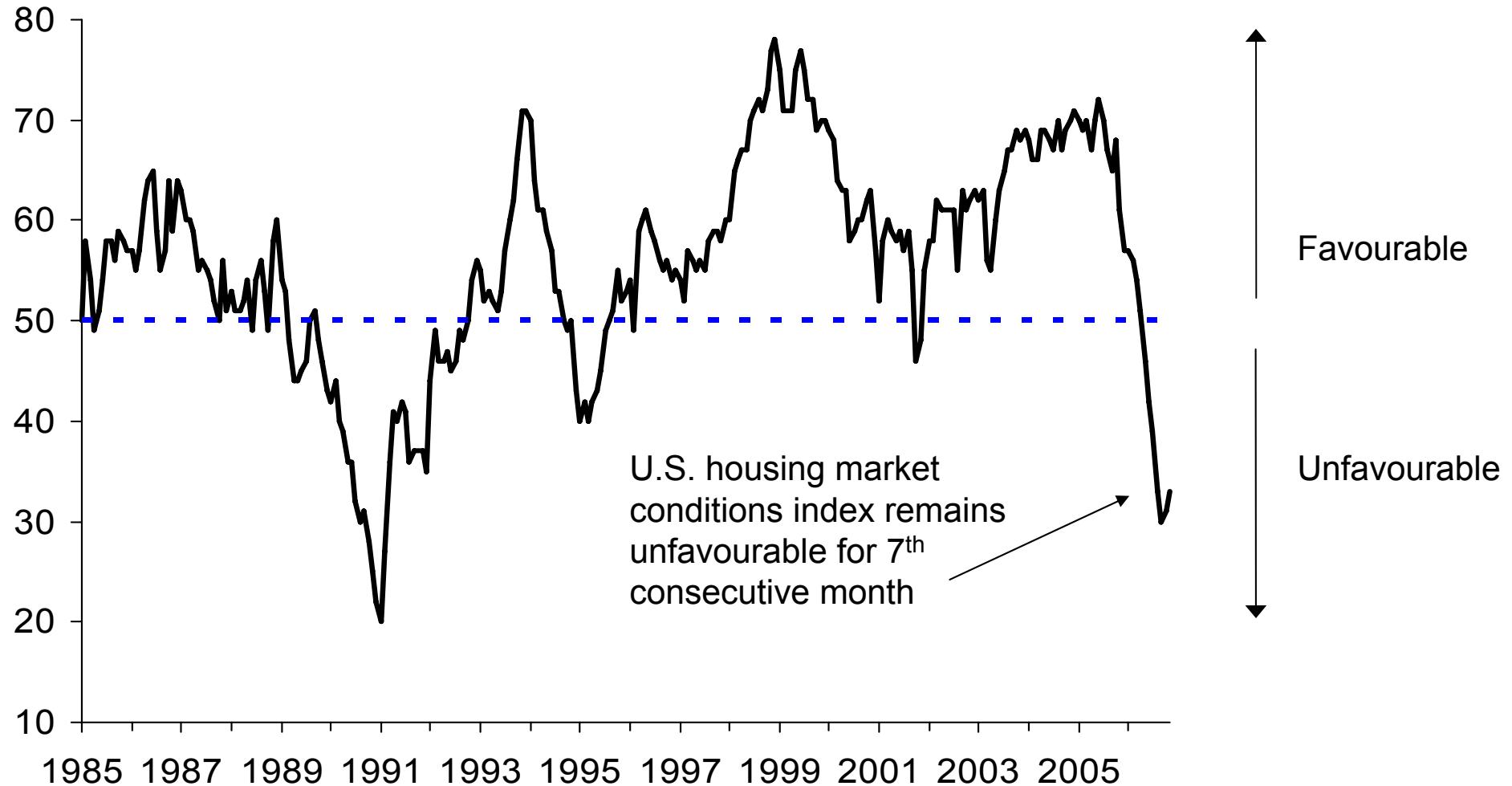
Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation



**Risks to the outlook remain**

# *US housing market weak*

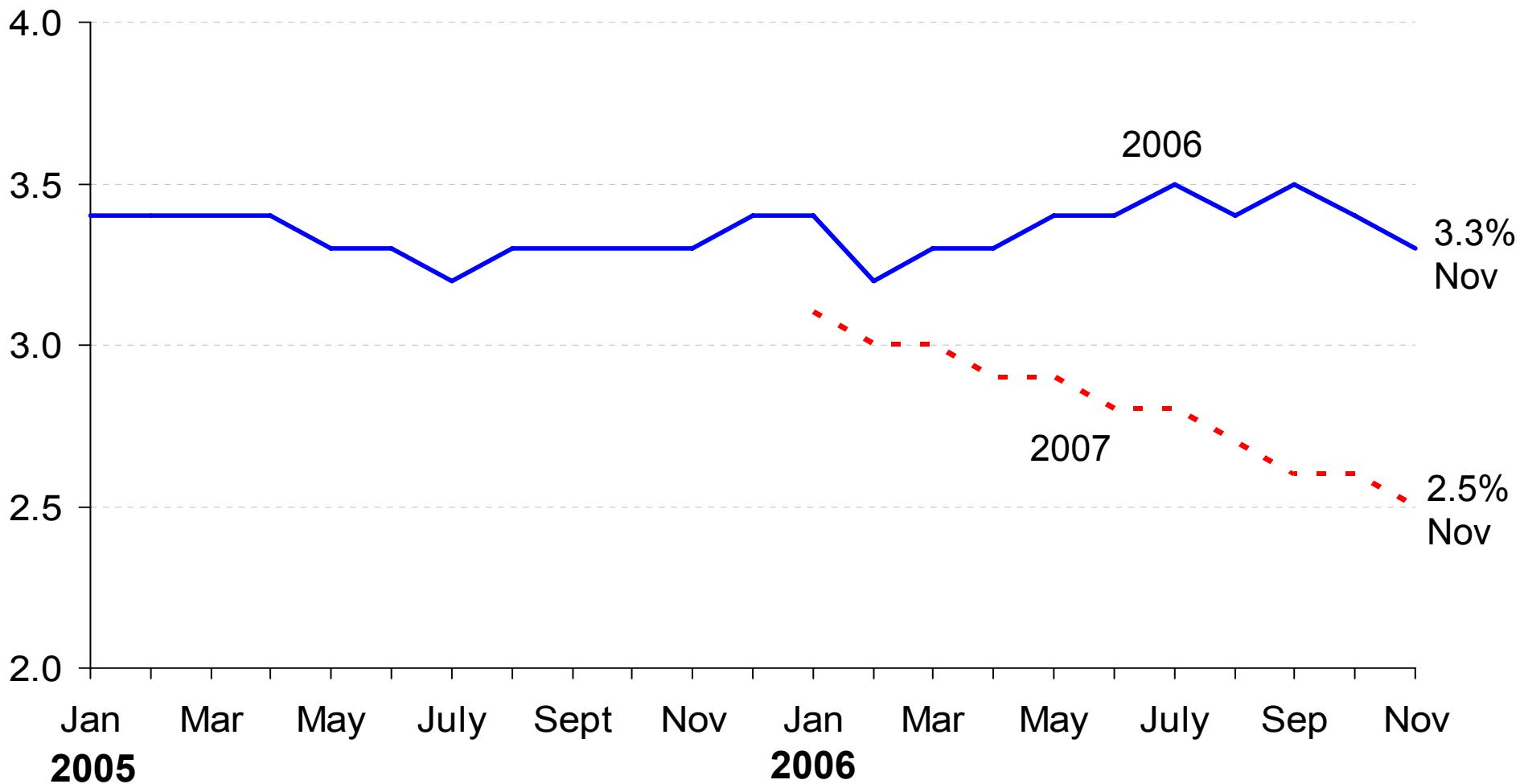
NAHB Housing  
Market Index, sa



Source: National Association of Home Builders

# *Consensus outlook for US economy continues to deteriorate*

Forecast annual per cent  
change in US real GDP



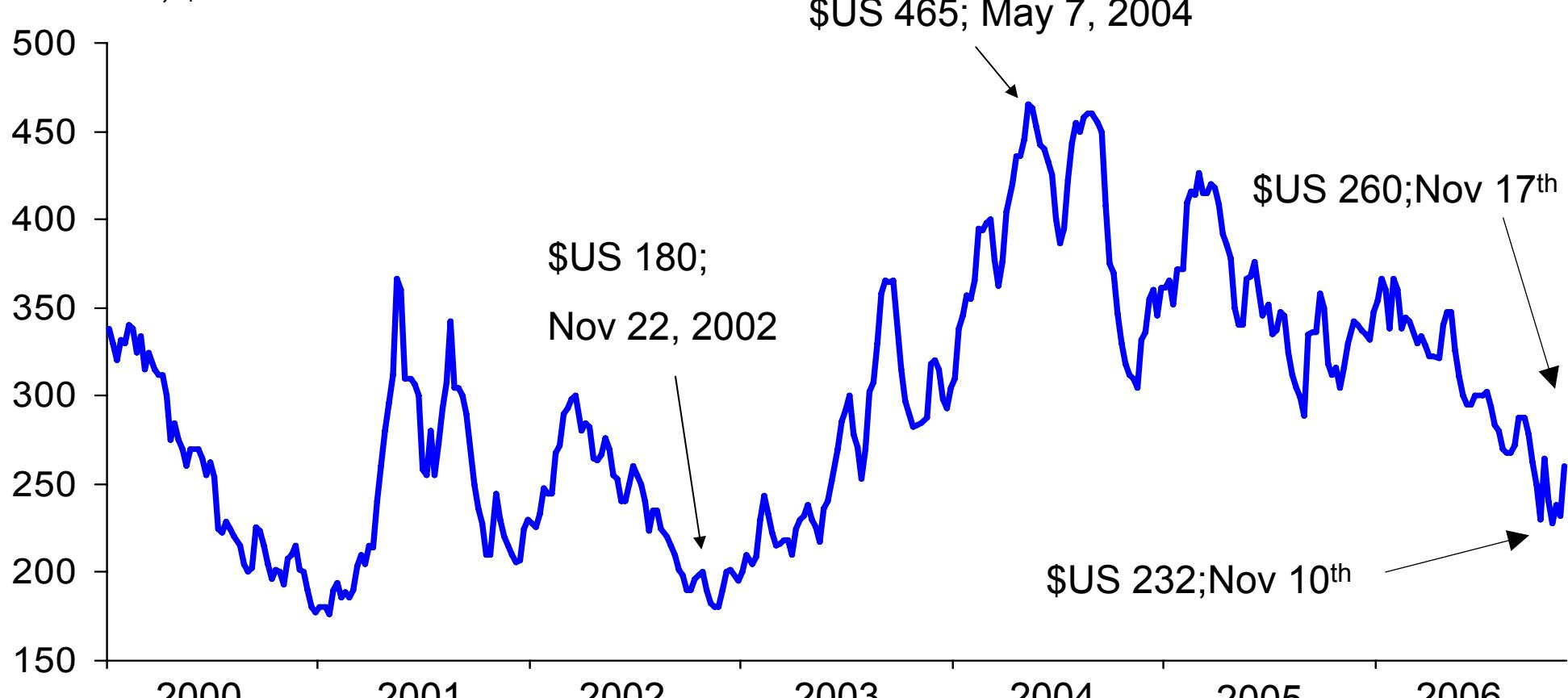
**2005**

Source: Consensus Economics

The chart represents forecasts for US real GDP growth in 2006 and 2007 as polled on specific dates. For example, forecasters surveyed on November 13, 2006 had an average 2006 U.S. growth forecast of 3.3 per cent, while in July they forecast 2006 U.S. growth at 3.5 per cent.

# *Lumber prices trend down*

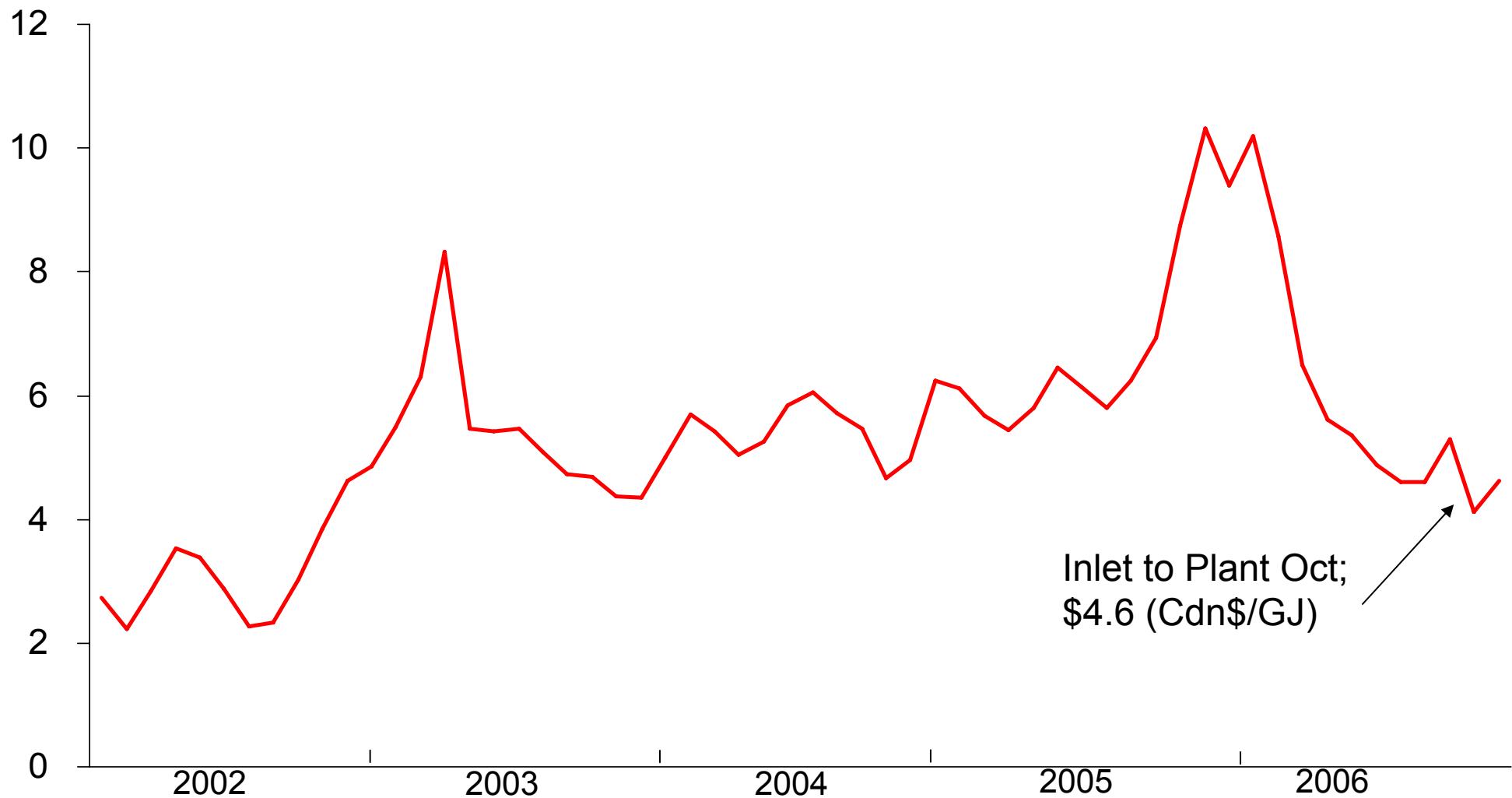
SPF 2X4; \$US/000 bd ft



Source: Madison's Lumber Reporter

# *Natural gas prices remain volatile*

Inlet to plant natural gas price (Cdn\$/GJ)



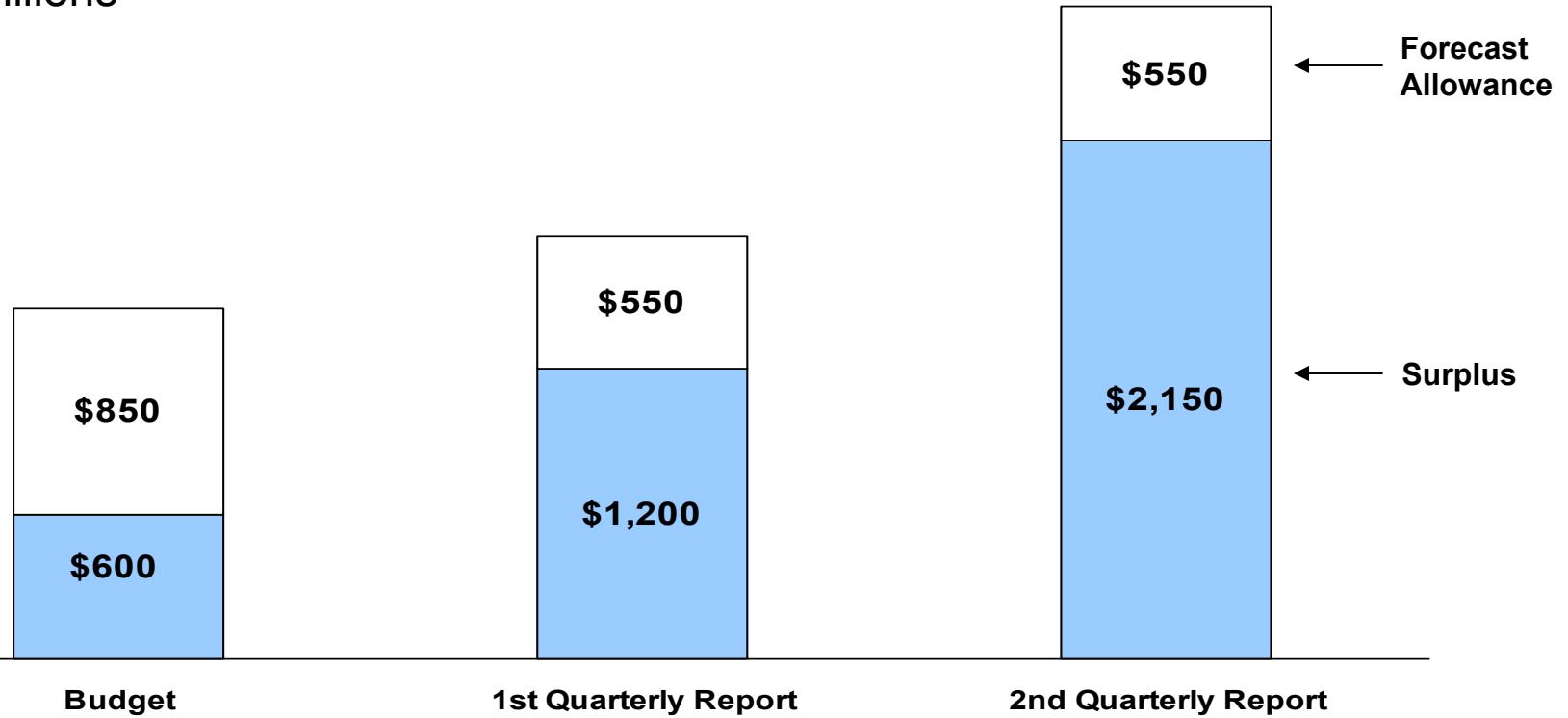
Source: BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources



# Fiscal Update

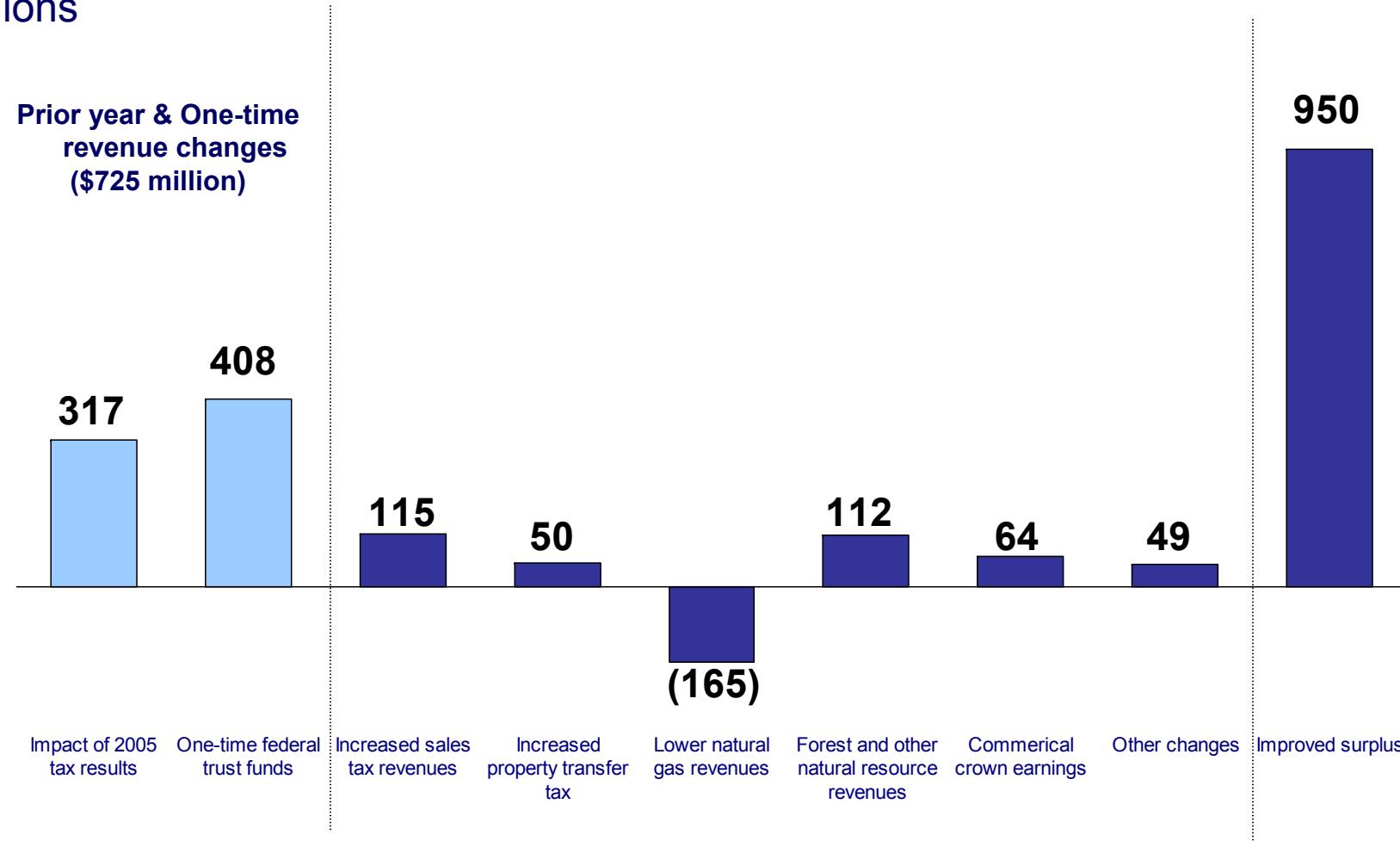
# *2006/07 surplus improves*

Surplus forecast  
\$ millions

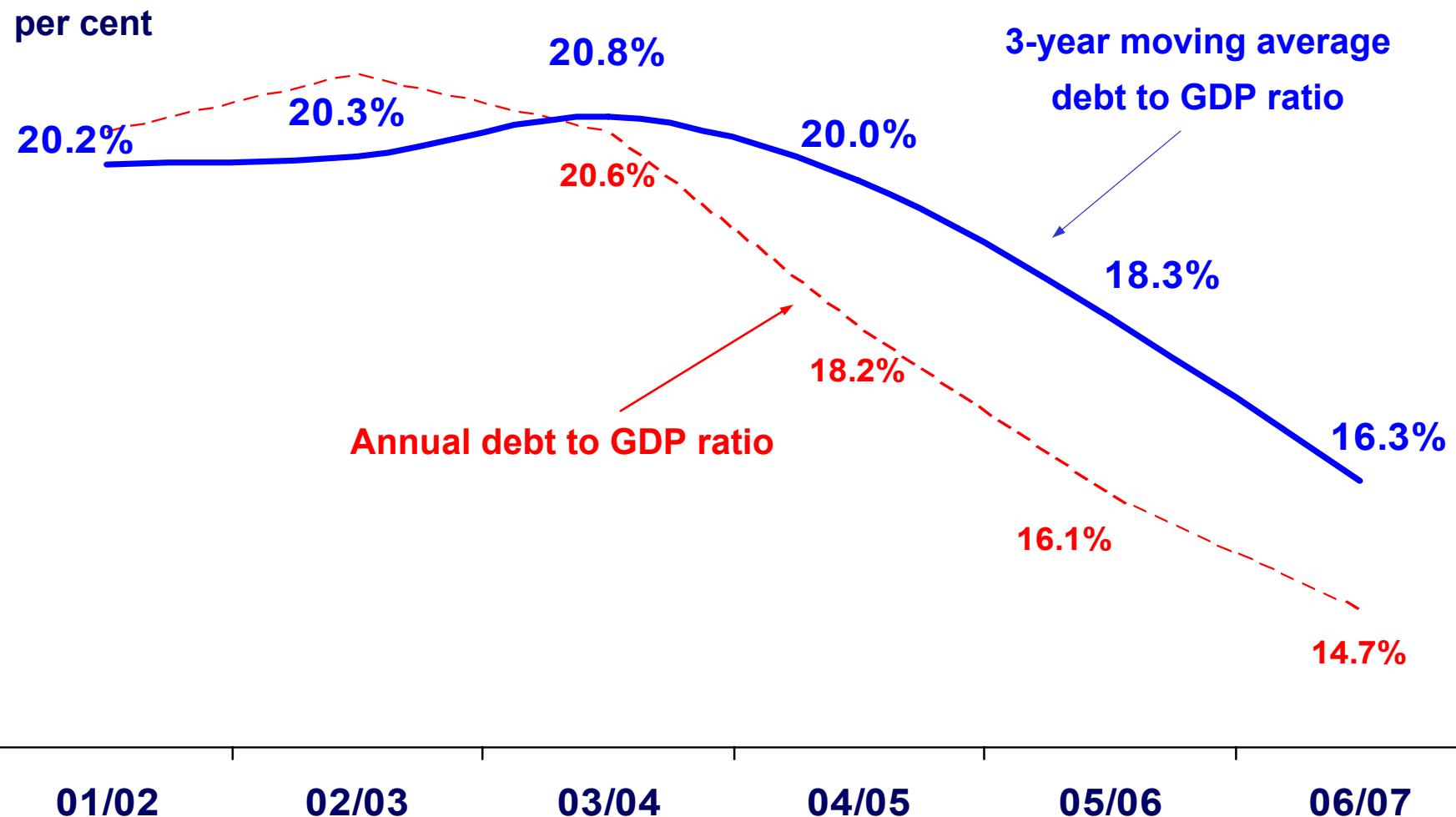


# *Improved 2006/07 surplus reflects strength in prior years and one-time revenues*

Main changes since the first *Quarterly Report – 2006/07*  
\$ millions



## *Taxpayer debt burden continues downward trend*



## *BC upgraded to AAA*

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- In October 2006, Moody's upgraded BC's credit rating to AAA, the highest possible credit rating
- Only Alberta and the Government of Canada currently hold this rating
- Moody's cited BC's record for:
  - A well structured fiscal plan and
  - Reduced debt burden



# Negotiating Framework

# *Negotiating framework*



- **Flexible framework**
- **Not “one size fits all”**
- **Covers 300,000 people**

Source: Second Quarterly Report presentation – November 30, 2005

# *Working together*



- **Improving working conditions**
- **Providing better services to British Columbians**
- **Policy tables**

Source: Second Quarterly Report presentation – November 30, 2005

# ***Additional service improvements***

Examples of service improvements include:

## **Health Sector**

- Addressing nursing shortages on nights/weekends
- e-Health initiative for doctors

## **Education Sector**

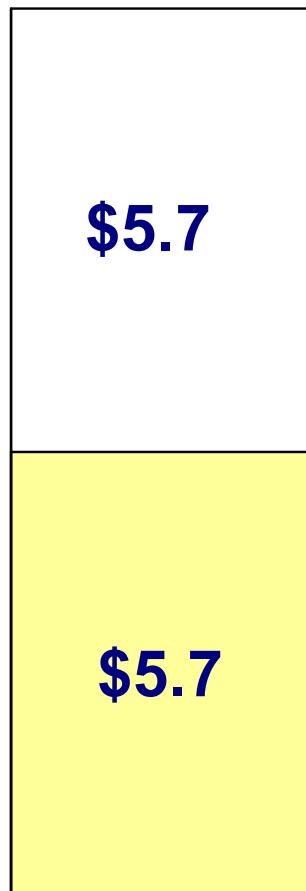
- Attracting teachers to rural and remote school districts
- Skills Enhancement and Apprenticeship Committee

# *Allocation of available funds*

\$ billions

Five - year total

**\$11.4 billion**



## **Negotiating framework:**

- \$ 1.0 B in 2005/06
- \$ 4.7 B for 2006/07 to 2009/10

## **Available for:**

- Growth in services as BC grows
- Service enhancements
- Carrying costs of capital
- Tax reductions
- Forecast allowance

Source: Second Quarterly Report presentation – November 30, 2005

# Compensation package costs

Sector/Employers	Cumulative (\$millions)						Potential Fiscal Dividend	Total
	Early Incentive	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	Four Year Total (including Early Incentive)		
Health .....	400.66	256.74	478.24	693.93	975.77	2,805.34	121.66	2,927.00
Education (K to 12) .....	242.62	65.92	159.62	253.38	348.54	1,070.08	71.74	1,141.82
Post Secondary Education .....	105.12	44.04	84.51	128.92	175.35	537.94	32.75	570.69
Public Service .....	105.01	46.35	99.15	143.72	182.30	576.53	31.63	608.16
Community Social Services ....	48.63	10.89	24.19	34.23	44.48	162.42	15.12	177.54
Crown Corporations .....	47.29	15.15	36.21	58.70	81.79	239.14	14.45	253.59
<b>Settlements to date .....</b>	<b>949.33</b>	<b>439.09</b>	<b>881.92</b>	<b>1,312.88</b>	<b>1,808.23</b>	<b>5,391.45</b>	<b>287.35</b>	<b>5,678.80</b>
Settlements Yet to go Through and Contingencies .....	50.67	0.91	38.08	77.12	141.77	308.55	12.65	321.20
<b>Projected Costs .....</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>440.00</b>	<b>920.00</b>	<b>1,390.00</b>	<b>1,950.00</b>	<b>5,700.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>
<b>November 2005 Negotiating Framework (NF) .....</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>895.00</b>	<b>1,420.00</b>	<b>1,965.00</b>	<b>5,700.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>
<b>NF Plan Reprofile .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>(30.00)</b>	<b>(15.00)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

# **Conclusion**



- **Sustainable and affordable over longer term**
- **Based on relevant labour market conditions**
- **Encourages employees and employers to work together to improve services to British Columbians**

Source: Second Quarterly Report presentation – November 30, 2005



**BRITISH**  
**COLUMBIA**  
The Best Place on Earth

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