

BACKGROUND

June 26, 2006

B.C. Competition Council

COMPETITION COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Co-chaired by former Premier Dan Miller and former Teck-Cominco CEO David Thompson, the B.C. Competition Council was established by Premier Gordon Campbell in March 2005 to develop recommendations for industry and government actions that would improve British Columbia's competitiveness.

The council focused on a number of ways the Province can build on British Columbia's successful economy, educated work force, infrastructure, competitive sources of energy and strategic location linking Asia with North America.

The council reviewed the competitiveness of 12 industries, establishing an Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) for each, comprised of industry leaders, and including representatives of labour and academia. The reports of these IACs are appended to the council's report.

Specifically, the council identified that British Columbia's competitiveness can be improved by:

- (a) Industry and government maximizing the potential of the province's human resources through education, training and innovation;
- (b) Industry investing in new technologies and knowledge;
- (c) Industry developing new products for the global marketplace;
- (d) Government ensuring the infrastructure is in place for efficient production and delivery of products to market through a competitive transportation and energy system;
- (e) Government providing timely and cost-effective access to land and resources through tenure and permitting; and
- (f) Government establishing a friendly business climate that welcomes investment through policy, corporate and personal taxation and regulation.

Detailed recommendations were made around education and training, international and inter-provincial immigration, transportation infrastructure and logistics, taxation, regulations and innovation.

The complete Competition Council Report and the individual Industry Advisory Committees reports are available online at www.bccompetitioncouncil.ca.

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