

- Thank you Irene
- Give a hand to our performers!
- We're here on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples -- Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- A lot has happened since the last time the BC Fed got together
- We have a new government!

[pause]

- For 16 years, the BC Liberals shut working people out and left families behind.
- Contracts were ripped up...
- Hard-won rights were rolled back...
- And cuts to public services hurt people every day.
- Friends -- it is a new day
- With a new NDP government
- For the first time in 16 years, working people will get a fair shake!

- I'm proud to lead a government that's making life better for people
- Although government is slightly different than I remember
- I had a lot more hair back in the 1990s
- Work and workplaces will always change with the times
- But as trade unionists, our goals must be the same:

- Fair treatment for workers
- Secure and safe work
- And good jobs for people in communities across BC.
- This will always be our fight.
- I will always be in your corner.
- You can count on it.

[pause]

- It's been 101 days since we formed government.

- I'm proud of what we've been able to achieve in that time:
- We made Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning tuition free -- creating opportunity for people
- We eliminated tuition for kids in care -- giving them hope and a chance at a better life
- We removed unfair tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges
- We banned big money in politics

- We lifted social assistance rates by \$100 a month, the first increase in 10 years
- We ended the heartless bus pass clawback for people with disabilities.
- And thanks to your hard work and the Fight for 15 campaign...
- We raised the minimum wage and created a fair wage commission to get us to \$15 an hour
- B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will finally get the raise they deserve.

- The Fair Wage Commission will look at the world of work, not just wages
- We must address unstable and unfair employment...
- And update our labour laws in a changing world.
- We're strengthening public services like health care and education
- And bringing back the Human Rights Commission.
- We're standing up for B.C.'s interests on Kinder Morgan

- We're tackling the challenges of climate change
- We're acting quickly to address the opioid crisis
- We're ending the grizzly bear trophy hunt
- And taking meaningful steps toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.
- We did all of these things while dealing with the worst wildfire season in BC history.

- When communities are in trouble, people come together.
- Many of you stepped up, opened your hearts and homes, and volunteered to help.
- STORY -- PREOC Government workers from every Ministry, communities across the province
- It was a long and difficult fire season
- We got through it because the people of BC stood together.
- And together, we will support communities as they rebuild.

- Friends, if this is what we can accomplish in just 100 days...
- Imagine what we can do in the months and years ahead.
- It's going to take time to clean up the mess the BC Liberals created.
- 16 years of bad choices and neglect really add up.
- Families have been working harder, and falling further behind.
- The BC Liberals only care about the wealthy and well-connected

- They ignored the problems facing real people
- They did nothing while housing costs spiralled out of control
- They ignored a generation of students learning in overcrowded classrooms
- They ignored our seniors, left alone without the care they needed
- They cut supports to vital public services

- And they rolled back rights for working people
- Rights that were hard-fought and fairly bargained.
- The BC Liberals have no respect for workers – and it shows.
- They ripped up contracts.
- Their six dollar-an-hour training wage was a recipe for poverty and exploitation.
- They put up roadblocks to education with sky-high tuition fees

- They eroded skills training and apprenticeships, and increased temporary foreign workers
- The BC Liberals shut working people out.
- That's going to change.
- We've hired thousands of teachers and put resources back in BC classrooms
- So that our kids the education they deserve
- And teachers get the working conditions they bargained for.

- We're going to build roads, schools, and hospitals across our province
- And we'll use Project Labour Agreements to do it.
- Success stories like the Vancouver Island Highway project can happen again.
- It put thousands of local people to work, with good jobs that benefit families and communities.
- PLAs invest in the next generation of skilled workers by providing skills training and apprenticeships

- Including equity hiring to create more opportunities for women and First Nations
- We're going to make workplace safety a priority, and protect workers from the harms of asbestos, the leading cause of workplace deaths
- Because every worker deserves to come home at the end of the day.

[pause]

- Friends, we are working to build a Better BC

- Guided by the values we share: fairness, equality, and opportunity for all.
- **Our government will make life more affordable for people.**
- We'll create safe, affordable universal childcare
- We'll help build housing for people
- We'll bring in fair ferry fares
- And eliminate unfair MSP premiums

- **We'll deliver the services people count on.**
- Including help for people with mental health and addictions, with a stand-alone Ministry of Mental Health
- We'll build hospitals and urgent care centres
- Safer schools with better resources to help students succeed
- And we'll invest in transit and transportation to get people moving

- **We're going to grow our economy to make it work for everyone**
- We'll continue to support traditional industries like forestry and mining.
- We'll fight for a fair deal on softwood lumber
- We'll promote our value added and manufacturing sector...
- To make sure communities benefit from the wealth they helped create.
- We are supporting tourism and film -- two of our fastest growing sectors

- And encouraging new economic activity in our tech sector.
- The people of BC work hard every day to build a better life for themselves and their families.
- It's time they had a government that worked for them.
- Not millionaires or the highest bidder
- But real people.
- Together, we will build a stronger, fairer, more just province where no one is left behind.

- We've only just begun.
- I look forward to building that Better BC with you
- Thank you very much

B.C. Fed Conference
Saturday Oct. 26, 2017

Speech objectives:

- Connect with labour activists about our vision for a better B.C.
- Outline the good work government has done in the first 100 days
- Talk about how we are going to make life better for working people

Format:

- Podium speech in front of 200-250 labour activists and leaders
- A live band plays you in and Irene Lanzinger introduces you on stage

Audience:

- Working people
- Union representatives
- Labour activists

Speech Arc:

- Thank BC Fed, Leadership, acknowledge their work and theme (changing workplace)
- A new government - a new day for working people (100 days message)
- There's much more to do. There's a big mess to clean up after 16 years.
- It will take time. Working together, we will build a better BC.

SPEAKING NOTES BEGIN NEXT PAGE...

- Thank you Irene
- Give a hand to our performers!
- We're here on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples -- Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- A lot has happened since the last time the BC Fed got together
- We have a new government!

[pause]

- For 16 years, the BC Liberals shut working people out and left families behind.
- Contracts were ripped up...
- Hard-won rights were rolled back...
- And cuts to public services hurt people every day.
- Friends -- it is a new day
- With a new NDP government
- For the first time in 16 years, working people will get a fair shake!

[pause]

- I'm proud to lead a government that's making life better for people
- Although government is slightly different than I remember
- I had a lot more hair back in the 90s, and my cell phone was the size of a brick.
- Work will always change with the times
- But as trade unionists, our goals must stay the same:

- Fair treatment for workers
- Secure and safe work
- And good jobs for people in communities across BC.
- This will always be our fight.
- I will always be in your corner.
- You can count on it.

[pause]

- It's been 101 days since we formed government.

- I'm proud of what we've been able to achieve in that time:
- We made Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning tuition free -- creating opportunity for people
- We eliminated tuition for kids in care -- giving them hope and a chance at a better life
- We removed unfair tolls from the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges
- We lifted social assistance rates by \$100 a month, after 10 years without an increase

- We ended the heartless bus pass clawback for people with disabilities.
- We raised the minimum wage and created a fair wage commission to get us to \$15 an hour
- Thanks to your hard work and the Fight for 15 campaign...
- B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will finally get the raise they deserve.

[pause]

- The Fair Wage Commission will look at the world of work, not just wages

- We must address unstable and unfair employment...
- And update our labour laws in a changing world.
- We're strengthening public services like health care and education
- We're standing up for B.C.'s interests on Kinder Morgan
- We're tackling the challenges of climate change
- Acting quickly to address the opioid crisis

- And taking meaningful steps toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.
- We did all of these things while dealing with the worst wildfire season in BC history.
- When communities are in trouble, people come together.
- Many of you stepped up, opened your hearts and homes, and volunteered to help.
- STORY - Evacuee Centre - BCGEU
- It was a long and difficult fire season

- We got through it because the people of BC stood together.
- And together, we will support communities as they rebuild.

[pause]

- Friends, if this is what we can accomplish in just 100 days...
- Imagine what we can do in the months and years ahead.

s.13

[pause]

- It's going to take time to clean up the mess the BC Liberals created.
- 16 years of bad choices and neglect really add up.
- Families have been working harder than ever to make ends meet
- And they are falling farther and farther behind.

- The BC Liberals only care about the wealthy and well-connected
- They ignored the problems facing real people
- They did nothing while housing costs spiralled out of control
- They ignored a generation of students learning in overcrowded classrooms
- They ignored our seniors, left alone without the care they needed
- They cut supports to vital public services

- And they rolled back rights for working people
- Rights that were hard-fought and fairly bargained.
- The BC Liberals had no respect for workers – and it showed.
- They ripped up contracts.
- Their six dollar-an-hour training wage was a recipe for poverty and exploitation.

- They put up roadblocks to education with sky-high tuition fees
- They eroded skills training and apprenticeships, and^{s.13} temporary foreign workers
- The BC Liberals shut working people out.

s.13

- We've hired thousands of teachers and put resources back in BC classrooms
- So that our kids the education they deserve

- And teachers get the working conditions they bargained for.

[pause]

- We're going to build roads, schools, hospitals across our province
- And we'll use Project Labour Agreements to do it.
- Success stories like the Vancouver Island Highway project can happen again.
- It put thousands of local people to work - good jobs that benefit families and communities.

- PLAs invest in the next generation of skilled workers by expanding skills training and apprenticeships
- Including equity hiring to create more opportunities for women and First Nations
- We're going to make workplace safety a priority, and protect workers from the harms of asbestos -- the leading cause of workplace deaths
- Because every worker deserves to come home at the end of the day.

[pause]

- Friends -- we are getting to work building a Better BC
- Guided by the values we share: fairness, equality, and opportunity for people.
- **Our government will make life more affordable for people.**
- We'll create safe, affordable universal childcare
- We'll help build housing for people
- We'll bring in fair ferry fares
- And eliminate unfair MSP premiums

- **Our government will provide the services people count on.**
- Including help for people with mental health and addictions
- Safer schools and better resources to help students succeed
- We'll build hospitals and urgent care centres
- And invest in transit and transportation to get people moving
- **We're going to grow our economy and make it work for everyone**

- We'll continue to support traditional industries like forestry and mining.
- We'll fight for a fair deal on softwood lumber
- And we'll promote our value added and manufacturing sector...
- To make sure communities benefit from the wealth they helped create.
- We're supporting tourism and film -- two of our fastest growing sectors
- And encouraging new economic activity in our fast-growing tech sector.

- The people of BC work hard to build a better life for themselves and their families.
- It's time they had a government that was working for them.
- Not millionaires or the highest bidder
- But real people.
- Together, we will build a stronger, fairer, more just province where no one is left behind.
- We've only just begun.

- I look forward to building that Better BC with you
- Thank you very much