

*August 18, 2017*

Domenico Iannidinaro  
Association of Professional Biology  
Email: [president@professionalbiology.com](mailto:president@professionalbiology.com)

Dear Mr. Iannidinaro:

As the newly appointed Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for the Province of British Columbia, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my priorities.

Our government put forward a progressive vision for a better BC including taking action on climate change. I look forward to working with the resource and industrial sector to achieve our mutual goals of building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy, while protecting our air, land and water.

Premier Horgan directed me to make progress on the following priorities:

- Renew BC's Climate Leadership Team within the first 100 days of my mandate;
- Implement a comprehensive climate action strategy, including setting a new legislated 2030 reduction target and establishing separate sectoral reduction targets and plans, while providing a pathway for BC to prosper economically;
- Work with BC's Minister of Finance to implement an increase of BC's carbon tax by \$5 per tonne per year, beginning April 1, 2018 to meet the federal government's carbon-pricing mandate. I am also directed to work with the Minister of Finance to take measures to expand the carbon tax to fugitive emissions and to slash-pile burning;
- Revitalize BC's Environmental Assessment process and review the professional reliance model to ensure the legal rights of First Nations are respected, and that British Columbians' expectation of a strong, transparent process is met;
- Employ every tool available to defend BC's interests in the face of the expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline, and the threat of a seven-fold increase in tanker traffic on our coast; and
- Enact an endangered species law and harmonize other laws to ensure they are all working towards the goal of protecting BC.

If you are interested in learning more about any of my key priorities listed here or would like to discuss opportunities to work together, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me by emailing my office at [env.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:env.minister@gov.bc.ca).

I hope to build a cooperative relationship with you to achieve more by working together.

Sincerely,

George Heyman  
Minister