

## **Premier Campbell addresses California Senate, applauds California's green leadership on green initiatives**

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### **Premier Gordon Campbell**

Thank you very much. I certainly won't impose for a few minutes, but I will take one minute – one minute to say thank you to all of the senators in California who have been such strong advocates and leaders as we've moved to create a 21st-century environment for economic growth, for job creation and for opportunity for all of us along the Pacific coast, and indeed, as they move to the east, they're going to catch up with California and British Columbia eventually, and they'll get it right too.

It is very important for you to know and for me to send this message to you clearly. We want to be strong partners of California in the initiatives you undertake. When California decided that it was important for us to have a low-carbon economy, we agreed. We have shared commitments, shared goals, shared objectives. They welcome us into the Western Climate Initiative. We were the first Canadian province to join that. We are moving with California to put in place a cap-and-trade system by December of 2012. When California said it was important to adopt vehicle emission standards, we agreed. All Canadian provinces have now adapted those.

So we have tried to be strong and able partners of California as we've moved ahead. I can tell you in our province that has meant our economy has strengthened. It has meant our opportunities have opened up. And of course, we have some of the cleanest energy in the world in British Columbia. We believe by building strong economic partnerships that are mutually beneficial, not just California and British Columbia will benefit, not just Canada and the United States, but the people that we serve, who are what is most important. Literally thousands of jobs will be connected to those initiatives, and many of those jobs stand on the foundation that California has helped to set.

So on behalf of all the people I represent, let me say thank you to each of you for your leadership; thank you to each of you for your commitment; and let me say that I think you are a reflection of the words that said: "Whatever you can do or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it." Thank you for your boldness. Thank you for the power of change that you bring to the table, the public table, across our continent, and thank you for the magic that you're consistently creating.

I appreciate the time. Thank you very much.