

Government-wide First Nations Accommodation

Honourable Geoff Plant

**Attorney General and Minister
Responsible for Treaty Negotiations**

Open Cabinet – June 30, 2004



British Columbia's Commitment

- Throne Speech stated B.C. will strive for accommodation and improved relationships with First Nations
- 2003/2004 Budget Speech committed funding to forestry revenue sharing



Purpose of Accommodation



- Economic opportunity for all
- Fulfill legal duty
- Create enhanced certainty for Crown land and resources
- Pre-treaty arrangements

Balance

- Government is striving for a balance between its goals of economic prosperity, social justice and common law requirements



Benefits for All

British Columbia

Improved Economy

Decreases
litigation

Improved business
climate

Better relationships

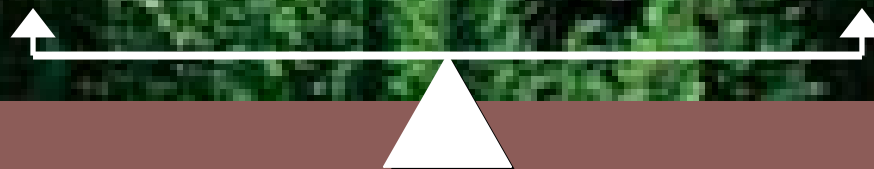
First Nations

Improved Economy

Business
partnerships

Collaborative
planning

Better relationships



Current Situation



- Uncertainty from Aboriginal claims is affecting the economic climate of the province
- Recent court decisions direct B.C. to consult and accommodate claims of rights and title – Taku Tlingit and Haida/Weyerhaeuser cases
- Accommodation agreements and partnerships are developing

Certainty



Treaties

Agreements in Principle

Accommodation Agreements

Economic Development Agreements

Business Partnerships



Certainty and Accommodation **LEGEND**



Development Agreements

LEGEND

Agreements Contributing to Certainty and Economic Development

● Economic Development

● Treaty Related Measures



Moving Forward



- Accommodation agreements are achieving their goals
- We continue to negotiate toward final treaties



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