

Programs - short-term

1. Re-establish a Coverage Level of 85% in the AgriStability Program, as this level of stabilization of net farm income has proven to be effective.
2. Establish a \$100 million Tree Fruit and Potato Columbia River Treaty Impacts Trust, for the period 2020-2021, to fund agriculture projects which reduce operating expenses; provide extension, education and innovation; irrigation improvements; capitalization of processing facilities; seasonal agricultural housing (community-based); and assist marketing of BC food products. The temporary fund will address some of the competitive impacts of the Columbia River Treaty on the tree fruit and vegetable (potato and onion) sectors, with ongoing funds for CRT impacts expected to be provided from the new CRT, currently being negotiated by the province and expected to be finalized within 4 years.
3. Renewal of the Replant Program for 7 years, \$21 million, for the period 2022-2029, with the level of funding established to address 20 years of inflationary adjustments for the program and bring contributions to the 75% required investment level.

Regulation: commit to a public review of the following issues

1. Develop streamlined and simplified regulation that protects farm workers and addresses the regulatory burden of laws on farmers. At present, the following regulators are granted powers to enter into the workplace to inspect farms participating in the Temporary Foreign Worker Program:
 - a. Field Investigations Department, WorkSafeBC
 - b. Integrity Services, Employment and Social Development Canada
 - c. Employment Standards, BC Ministry of Labour
 - d. Foreign Consulate or Foreign Liaison Service
 - e. Regional Health District
 - f. COVID-19 Inspection, BC Ministry of Agriculture
 - g. Housing Inspectors, Western Agriculture Labour Service
 - h. Pest Management Regulatory Agency,
 - i. and others
2. Review the ALR to protect farmland while allowing a set ratio of unregulated footprint on farm properties for bonafide farmers to pack, process, market and conduct agri-tourism in support of their farm base.
3. Implement a two-tier property taxation on ALR properties with lower tax rates for bonafide farmers and reduced tax rates for maintaining the property available to bonafide farm use, in order to encourage active farming within the ALR.
4. Implement an urban property tax in support of agriculture (similar to the School Tax) to raise the level of agricultural program expenditure to the OECD developed countries average.