

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **BC Chamber of Commerce supports Evergreen Line funding initiative, calls for road pricing**

---

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Vancouver, July 6, 2011** – The BC Chamber of Commerce today welcomed the statement from the Provincial Government and Mayors Council on Regional Transportation announcing their support of the provincial Moving Forward funding plan.

“The Evergreen Line and additional regional transportation infrastructure improvement will be a boon for investment, and we are pleased with the initiative of the Ministry of Transportation to develop the funding streams to support important initiative,” said John Winter, President & CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce.

The Moving Forward supplement proposes an additional 2 cent gasoline tax to be implemented in April 2012. It also would include a three year time limited property tax, to a maximum of \$23.13 per average household, in 2013 if necessary. The property tax inclusion could be replaced by other funding options such as a transportation improvement levy or regional carbon tax.

“Though the sustainable funding model proposed is a step in the right direction, the essential mechanism of flexibility is missing,” continued Winter. “Given the projected growth in the region, including road pricing into a direct traffic demand management system will be crucial. Road pricing allows for an element of choice for businesses and commuters which does not exist in either the gas tax or vehicle levy systems.”

- 30 -

For further details contact;

Neal Wells  
Manager, Communications  
BC Chamber of Commerce

W 604 638 8114

E [nwells@bcchamber.org](mailto:nwells@bcchamber.org)