



**GREATER VANCOUVER
BOARD OF TRADE**

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
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Bridgitte Anderson, ICD.D

2025-26
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2025-26
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1984 - 85	Allen. M. Fowlis
1978	Donald C. Selman

March 31, 2026

Mr. Scott McInnis, MLA for Columbia River-Revelstoke
Sent via email: scott.mcinnis.mla@leg.bc.ca

RE: *Aboriginal Title Transparency Act*

Dear MLA McInnis,

On behalf of the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, I am writing to express our support for the transparency, reporting, and disclosure sections of the *Aboriginal Title Transparency Act (the "Act")*.

Predictability and clarity are the bedrocks of a functional investment climate. As highlighted by the Cowichan Tribes decision, there is currently a disconnect in the level of information available for all affected parties concerning land claim. This gap creates uncertainty for B.C. businesses, property owners, and local governments, which in turn impacts the broader economy.

Specifically, we support the requirement to provide notice to the owner of an estate in fee simple over which aboriginal title has been sought. We agree that transparency and the creation of a public online registry and reporting are common-sense steps. By ensuring that local governments, property owners, and businesses are notified of claims, this legislation will allow for better-informed dialogue.

We note that other sections within Bill M 239 deserve careful consideration, including Section 3, which requires notice in the land title office. Given the potential impact of this provision, we believe a robust consultation should be conducted before this is passed and brought into force. Finally, as we are still evaluating the full implications of Section 5 of the Bill, we reserve further comment on that specific provision at this time.

We thank you for introducing this Private Member's Bill and look forward to further discussion.

Sincerely,

Bridgitte Anderson
President and Chief Executive Officer
Greater Vancouver Board of Trade