



A STRONG ECONOMY IS THE KEY

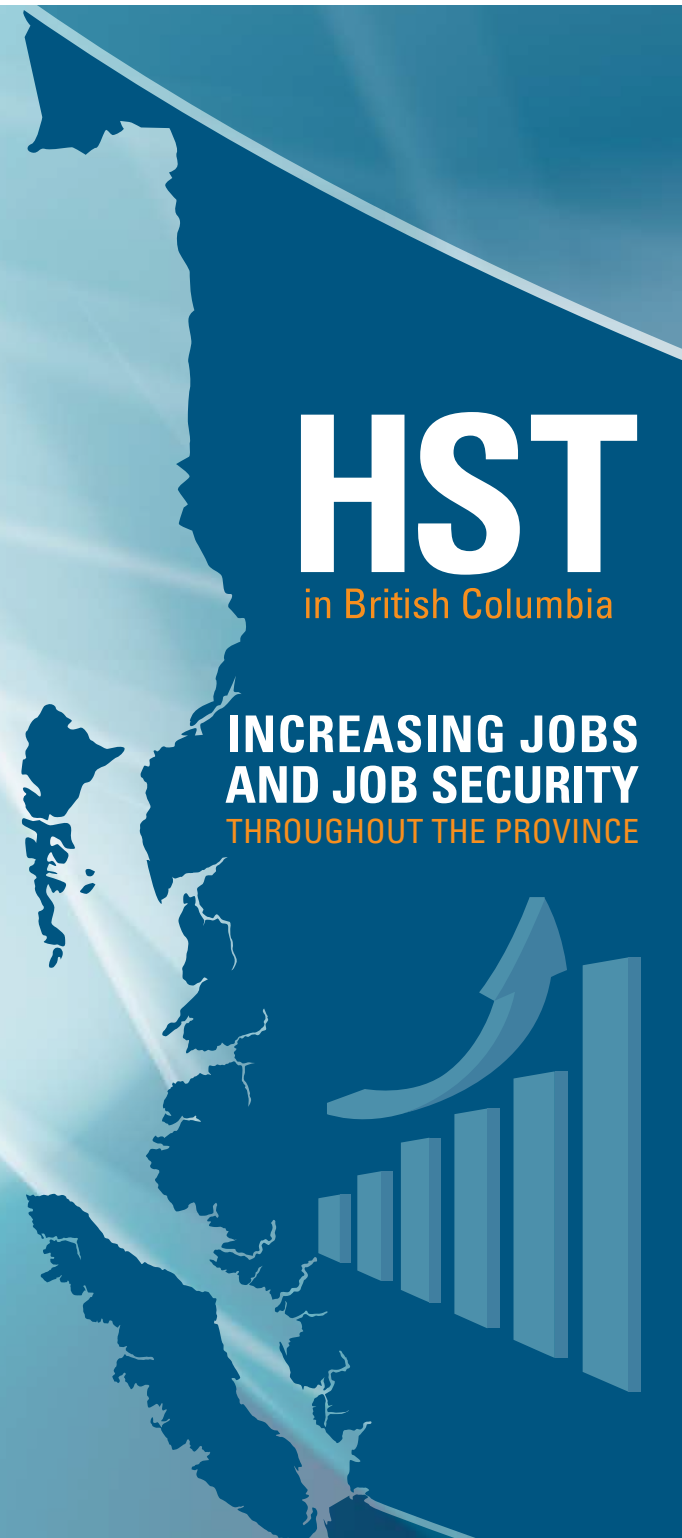
BC's economy is dependent on the province's ability to be competitive in international trade. ***As long as there is a strong economy, governments will be able to continue to invest in local infrastructure development, healthcare and education.***

For most taxpayers in BC, personal income tax rates have been reduced by 37 per cent or more since 2001. The HST is a re-alignment of existing taxes that will help secure BC's economic stability and growth which means greater security and more job creation.

SUPPORTING BC'S QUALITY OF LIFE

If the province's economy is strong, British Columbians will be working and in a position to look after their families. There will be funding to support priorities such as healthcare, education, public safety and infrastructure development – all of the elements that promote a strong quality of life.

Share these important messages with your peers, families and employees today.



HST

in British Columbia

INCREASING JOBS AND JOB SECURITY THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

It's no coincidence

that British Columbia has been recovering from the economic downturn faster than most other provinces and states. This is mainly because both the provincial and federal governments made unprecedented contributions towards rebuilding a vibrant economy for British Columbia and Canada.

Increased investments in infrastructure

development and in the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games helped BC businesses through a difficult time.

According to The Vancouver Sun,

- ✚ Vancouver tops a list of 41 cities for tax competitiveness
- ✚ Growth of 3.8% is forecasted for BC's economy in 2010
- ✚ BC companies are reporting strong earnings in the first quarter
- ✚ BC's mining industry is well positioned for an anticipated increase in commodities demand
- ✚ Forestry is benefiting from a steadily improving housing market here and in the US

British Columbia's businesses, jobs and economy are dependent on the ability to remain competitive and the HST will help by lowering costs and stimulating growth. Both the federal and provincial governments recognize this fact and have made the right decision to bring the HST to BC.

THE HST IS GOOD FOR BC'S BUSINESSES

More than 130 countries have adopted value-added taxes like the HST and if we continue with an antiquated retail sales tax system like we have, we will be at a competitive disadvantage which will cost BC businesses investment and jobs.

With the implementation of the HST, businesses will have more money to:

- ✚ Increase investment in their operations
- ✚ Hire more employees
- ✚ Pass the savings along to consumers



DID YOU KNOW...

- ✚ 1.1 million lower income British Columbians will receive a BC HST rebate cheque every quarter?
- ✚ The HST will create over 110,000 new jobs for BC workers over the next ten years?
- ✚ At 12%, BC will have the lowest HST in Canada?
- ✚ Moving to the HST will help make BC products/services more competitive in world markets?
- ✚ The provincial government estimates that the transportation sector will enjoy savings of about \$210 million per year from the switch to the HST through the opportunity to claim input tax credits for everything ranging from trucks and tires to radios and repairs?

The HST, combined with the most competitive taxes in North America and the availability of a highly skilled workforce, will generate long term economic growth in British Columbia and job security and opportunities for BC workers.