On June 16, 2005, the new government’s twenty-three member Cabinet was sworn in to the Provincial Legislature. In addition to the Premier, 19 Ministers and three Ministers of State (Intergovernmental Relations, Childcare and Mining) comprise the new streamlined and restructured Cabinet. Six new members joined Cabinet: Wally Oppal as Attorney General; Carole Taylor as Minister of Finance; Claude Richmond as Minister of Employment and Income Assistance; Bill Bennett as Minister of State for Mining; Barry Penner as Minister of Environment and Olga Illich as Minister of Tourism, Sports and the Arts. As well, the following three Parliamentary Secretaries were appointed: Dave Hayer for Multiculturalism and Immigration; Richard Lee for the Asia-Pacific Initiative; and Val Roddick for Agriculture Planning.

As noted, the Ministry structure has undergone major change with a reduced number of ministries and significant changes in both names and areas of responsibility. The Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management no longer exists and its various responsibilities have been moved to other ministries. As well, the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection has undergone some restructuring and is now the Ministry of Environment. There is a new Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts, as well as a stand-alone Ministry of Economic Development.

Of key interest to local government is the new Ministry of Community Services (and Minister Responsible for Seniors’ and Women’s Issues). Honourable Ida Chong was appointed Minister. While the Ministry retains Women’s Services, Seniors moves back into the Ministry and the Aboriginal Services portfolio has now been moved to the stand-alone Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, under Tom Christenson, former Minister of Education.

The Ministry of Community Services has been designated the following responsibilities:

- Community Charter
- Local government
- Vancouver Urban Development Agreement
- University Endowment Lands
- Canada/BC Infrastructure Program
- Building policy
- Safety standards and inspections
- Office of the Fire Commissioner
- Seniors’ and women’s services
- Community adjustment

Major Agencies, Boards and Commissions falling under the purview of the Ministry include:

- Building Code Appeal Board
- Homeowner Protection Office
- Premier’s Council on Aging and Seniors’ Issues

Other shifts in Cabinet responsibilities of interest to local government include:

- treaty negotiations and interim measures (Attorney General) moves to new Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ministry
- libraries (MCAWS) moves to Ministry of Education
- heritage (MCAWS) moves to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts
- housing (MCAWS) moves to Ministry of Forests and Minister Responsible for Housing
- Lands, formerly Land and Water BC, (Sustainable Resource Mgmt) moves to Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

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New Cabinet cont...

- Land Reserve Commission (Sustainable Resource Management) moves to Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
- BC Assessment Authority (Sustainable Resource Management) moves to Ministry of Small Business and Revenue
- multiculturalism programs (MCAWS) and immigration moves to Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism
- resort development (Small Business and Economic Development) moves to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts
- tourism (Small Business and Economic Development) moves to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts
- film commissions (Small Business and Economic Development) move to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts

- fisheries and aquaculture (Agriculture, Food and Fisheries) moves to Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
- forest recreation sites and trails (Forests) moves to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts
- recreational fish and wildlife recreation promotion (WLAP) moves to Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts

Seven of the 23 members of Cabinet have former local government experience, including Premier Gordon Campbell and Ministers Ida Chong, George Abbott, Murray Coell, Carole Taylor, John Les and Claude Richmond.

NEW COMMUNITY SERVICES MINISTER

Ida Chong was appointed Minister of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors’ and Women’s Issues on June 16, 2005. She previously served as Minister of Advanced Education and Minister of State for Women’s and Seniors’ Services.

Ms. Chong was first elected in 1996 in the riding of Oak Bay-Gordon Head and was re-elected in 2001 and 2005.

Ms. Chong proudly retains her credentials as a Certified General Accountant and has won several awards for her work in this field for service at a chapter level, as well as for service on provincial committee. In 1999, she was awarded the CGA Community Service Award.

Ms. Chong has worked extensively in public practice, and from 1985 to 2003 was senior partner in an accounting practice in Saanich. She also found time to volunteer for several non-profit organizations, serving as a board member.

Ms. Chong first entered political life as a municipal councillor for the District of Saanich in 1993. In her first term in provincial politics, she served as the Official Opposition critic for Small Business, Tourism and Culture, the Deputy Critic of Finance, the Deputy Dritic for Women’s Equality and Chair of the Official Opposition Committee on the Economy.

Since the 2001 election, Ms. Chong has served on many government committees. She has been chair of the Government Caucus Committee on Economy and Government Operations, as well as a member of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, and the Special Committee on the Citizens’ Assembly on Electoral Reform.

She currently serves on Treasury Board, the Government Caucus Committee on Education and the Government Caucus Committee on Cross Government Initiatives.
THE NEW PROVINCIAL CABINET IS STRUCTURED AS FOLLOWS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Minister</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premier</td>
<td>Hon. Gordon Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations</td>
<td>Hon. John van Dongen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation</td>
<td>Hon. Tom Christensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Advanced Education</td>
<td>Hon. Murray Coell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Agriculture and Lands</td>
<td>Hon. Pat Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>Hon. Wally Oppal</td>
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<td>Minister of Children and Family Development</td>
<td>Hon. Stan Hagen</td>
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<td>Minister of State for Childcare</td>
<td>Hon. Linda Reid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Community Services</td>
<td>Hon. Ida Chong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Economic Development</td>
<td>Hon. Colin Hansen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Education and Deputy Premier</td>
<td>Hon. Shirley Bond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Employment and Income Assistance</td>
<td>Hon. Claude Richmond</td>
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<td>Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources</td>
<td>Hon. Richard Neufeld</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of State for Mining</td>
<td>Hon. Bill Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Environment (and Minister Responsible for Water Stewardship and Sustainable Communities)</td>
<td>Hon. Barry Penner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Finance</td>
<td>Hon. Carole Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Forests and Range (and Minister Responsible for Housing)</td>
<td>Hon. Rich Coleman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Health</td>
<td>Hon. George Abbott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Labour and Citizens’ Services and Government House Leader</td>
<td>Hon. Mike De Jong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General</td>
<td>Hon. John Les</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Small Business and Revenue (and Minister Responsible for Deregulation)</td>
<td>Hon. Rick Thorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Tourism, Sports and the Arts</td>
<td>Hon. Olga Ilich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minister of Transportation</td>
<td>Hon. Kevin Falcon</td>
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Biographies of all members of the Executive Council are available online at www.gov.bc.ca.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources</th>
<th>Greg Reimer, Deputy Minister</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ministry of Environment | Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister  
Joan Hesketh, Associate Deputy Minister, Environmental Assessment Office |
| Ministry of Finance | Tamara Vrooman, Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board  
Bob de Faye, Associate Deputy Minister, Public Sector Employers’ Council |
| Ministry of Forests and Range | Doug Konkin, Deputy Minister  
Lori Wanamaker, Associate Deputy Minister, Housing |
| Ministry of Health | Penny Ballem, Deputy Minister  
David Woodward, Associate Deputy Minister |
| Ministry of Labour and Citizens’ Services | Gord Macatee, Deputy Minister  
Rick Connolly, Associate Deputy Minister, Labour  
James Gorman, Associate Deputy Minister, Public Service Operations Agency  
Diane Rabbani, Associate Deputy Minister, Public Service Agency |
| Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General | David Morhart, Deputy Minister |
| Ministry of Small Business and Revenue | Robin Ciceri, Deputy Minister |
| Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts | Andrew Wilkinson, Acting Deputy Minister |
| Ministry of Transportation | John Dyble, Deputy Minister |
Ministry of Environment is Back

The new Ministry of Environment assumes many of the responsibilities of the former Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection and the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. The Ministry’s creation reflects one of the Golden Decade goals announced in the 2005 Speech from the Throne, which is to have BC lead the work in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality.

Barry Penner was appointed the new Minister of Environment and Minister Responsible for Water Stewardship and Sustainable Communities. He was first elected MLA for the riding of Chilliwack-Kent in 1996 and was re-elected in 2001 and 2005. Mr. Penner has previously served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader, and as a member of the Government Caucus Committee on Natural Resources and the Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Crown Corporations.

Mr. Penner assumes the Environment portfolio with a breadth of experience. He is a lawyer by profession, and he has experience as a park ranger and sawmill worker. Mr. Penner also Co-Chairs BC’s Alternative Energy and Power Technology Task Force.

The Ministry’s general responsibilities include:

- Parks, wilderness and protected areas
- Air, land and water pollution prevention and waste mgmt
- Fish and wildlife habitat and species protection
- Compliance and enforcement
- Water quality
- Water allocation
- Drought management
- Dam and dyke safety and regulation
- Flood plain management
- Ocean management strategy
- Watershed restoration
- Environmental emergencies
- Conservation Officer Service
- Environmental Assessment Office
- State of Environment reporting
- Sustainable Communities Initiative

The major Agencies, Boards and Commissions falling under the Ministry include:

- Tourism BC
- Provincial Capital Commission
- BC Arts Council
- BC Games Society
- Royal BC Museum Corporation
- BC Pavilion Corporation
- Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project
- Forest and wildlife habitat and species protection
- Compliance and enforcement
- Water quality
- Water allocation
- Drought management
- Dam and dyke safety and regulation
- Flood plain management
- Ocean management strategy
- Watershed restoration
- Environmental emergencies
- Conservation Officer Service
- Environmental Assessment Office
- State of Environment reporting
- Sustainable Communities Initiative

The major Agencies, Boards and Commissions falling under the Ministry include:

- Tourism strategy
- Heritage conservation
- Archaeology
- Forest recreation sites and trails
- Recreational fish and wildlife recreation promotion
- Arts and Culture programs
- Sports and recreation
- Commercial and public recreation
- Resorts and alpine ski developments
- Film policy and classification
- Volunteer

New Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts

In its 2005 Throne Speech, the provincial government identified some key goals for a Golden Decade; healthy living and physical fitness, doubling tourism revenues within the next 10 years and new investments and programs to support and celebrate our diverse heritage in music, art, culture and sport. These three areas have now found a home under one ministry - the new Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts.

Olga Illich, a newcomer to Cabinet and government has been tasked with responsibility for the Ministry. As the new MLA for Richmond Centre, Ms Illich’s varied background includes: President of Suncor Development Corporation, a real estate development and construction company; Chair of the BC Assessment Authority; director of UBC Properties Investment Ltd.; director of the Vancouver International Airport Authority; and President of the Urban Development Institute, Pacific Region.

The major Agencies, Boards and Commissions falling under the Ministry include:

- Tourism BC
- Provincial Capital Commission
- BC Arts Council
- BC Games Society
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