Canadian Propane Association | Association canadienne du propane

October 27, 2026

Premier-Designate Lorne Doerksen
Premier-Designate of British Columbia
Victoria, British Columbia

Re: Congratulations on Your Election Victory – Partnering to Advance Affordability, Energy Security and Economic Growth

Dear Premier-Designate Doerksen,

On behalf of the Canadian Propane Association (CPA) and our members across British Columbia, congratulations on your election victory and the formation of a new Conservative majority government.

Your government's focus on affordability, reducing regulatory burdens, strengthening economic competitiveness and supporting responsible resource development presents an important opportunity for collaboration with British Columbia's propane industry. We look forward to working with your government to translate these shared priorities into practical policies that deliver meaningful benefits for British Columbians.

Propane is an important contributor to B.C.'s economy, supporting approximately 2,587 jobs, generating $391 million in government revenue and providing a primary energy source for more than 25,000 households. It is particularly important to rural, remote and Indigenous communities, where access to affordable, reliable energy is essential. As Canada's leading West Coast propane export gateway, B.C. also plays a strategic role in connecting Canadian energy resources to growing international markets.

As your government establishes its priorities, we see several areas of strong alignment where early collaboration could deliver tangible results:

1. Reducing Red Tape and Costs for B.C. Businesses

Your government's commitment to reducing unnecessary regulation aligns directly with our request to exempt refillable propane cylinders from expanded Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) requirements. These cylinders already operate within established systems of reuse, inspection, requalification and recycling. Additional requirements risk duplicating existing practices and increasing costs for businesses and consumers without corresponding environmental benefits. With implementation scheduled for April 1, 2027, we are seeking early regulatory clarity or transitional relief while pursuing a permanent exemption. This represents

an immediate opportunity to demonstrate your government's commitment to practical, outcomes-based regulation.

2. Making Transportation More Affordable and Competitive

Eliminating B.C.'s 2.7¢/L motor fuel tax on auto propane would align with your government's affordability and competitiveness objectives. Ontario and Quebec have already eliminated this tax, while B.C.'s existing network of 114 propane fuelling stations provides the infrastructure to support greater adoption. We encourage consideration of this targeted tax reform in your government's first provincial budget. It would support commercial fleets, school transportation and small businesses while encouraging the use of an affordable, lower-emission transportation fuel.

3. Restoring Energy Choice for British Columbians

We share the objective of ensuring families, businesses and communities have access to reliable and affordable energy. Technology-neutral energy and building policies (ie: within the BC Building Step Code) would allow consumers to choose solutions best suited to their circumstances, rather than imposing unnecessary restrictions on available fuels and technologies. Recognizing propane within provincial energy policies would be particularly beneficial for rural, agricultural, remote and Indigenous communities.

4. Attracting Investment in Made-in-B.C. Energy Innovation

British Columbia has an opportunity to build on its existing renewable-fuels expertise by supporting domestic renewable propane production. Targeted production incentives and eligibility under provincial clean-energy programs could attract private investment, create skilled jobs and expand access to lower-carbon energy produced in B.C. This approach aligns economic development and innovation with practical emissions reductions.

5. Strengthening Energy Security and Supporting Industrial Growth

As electricity demand increases, propane can complement B.C.'s electricity system through on-site generation, backup power and hybrid energy solutions. Recognizing these applications in provincial energy planning would support critical infrastructure, industrial development and grid resilience, while providing practical options for businesses facing electricity capacity constraints.

6. Expanding Trade and Strengthening B.C.'s Energy Export Advantage

B.C.'s West Coast propane export terminals are strategic assets supporting Canadian energy exports and economic diversification. Predictable permitting, reliable rail transportation and

coordinated infrastructure development can help attract investment and expand access to Indo-Pacific markets. We welcome opportunities to work with your government, Indigenous partners and industry to strengthen B.C.'s position as a competitive and reliable international energy gateway.

An Opportunity for Early Collaboration

These priorities offer practical opportunities to advance your government's objectives of affordability, regulatory efficiency, energy reliability and private-sector investment.

We would welcome an opportunity to meet with you and your incoming ministers at the earliest convenient date to discuss these recommendations, identify areas for early action and establish a constructive working relationship with British Columbia's propane industry.

Premier-Designate Doerksen, congratulations once again on your election victory. We look forward to working with your government to advance practical, affordable and reliable energy solutions that strengthen British Columbia's economy and communities.

Sincerely,

Shannon Watt,
President & CEO
Canadian Propane Association

CC: Katie Kachur, Vice President, Government Relations, Canadian Propane Association
Cc: Clint Hillman, Superior Propane, Chair, CPA British Columbia Committee