



## **Annual Public Meeting – April 23, 2021**

### **Chair Remarks**

#### **Check against Delivery**

Hello! My name is Tamara Vrooman and I am the Chair of the Canada Infrastructure Bank.

I'd like to welcome you to our Annual Public Meeting.

I'm joining you from my workplace in Vancouver, at the Vancouver International Airport.

Vancouver Airport is located on Sea Island which is the traditional territory of the Musqueam people.

YVR has a long, prosperous relation with Musqueam and I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge elders past and present.

I was thrilled to take on the leadership role of the Chair of the CIB Board earlier this year, in February.

The CIB has such an important mandate going forward. Not only as we think about the future economy of our country but also the kind of country that we want to build.

You know, throughout my career I have been focused, as the deputy minister of finance, as the CEO of Vancity Credit Union on using finance and capital to create the future that we want, and we need. Not only for our country but for our communities and for our kids. And so, when I was asked by the government of Canada to take on this role, I could see no better way than to continue to focus on the future than to focus on the future of infrastructure in our country.

Whether is broadband, agriculture, trade, clean energy, the movement of people and goods, public transit, or electrification of transit and passengers and goods movement. It's all about future proofing our economy and our communities.

In October of last year, we introduced our \$10 billion Growth Plan, focused on climate change and connecting Canadians as we come out of the pandemic.

I'm pleased to say that we are already ahead of schedule and the early days of the Plan are showing great promise. We've executed on a number of fronts, be it indigenous infrastructure, be it transit, be it agriculture and trade or connectivity and broadband and clean energy. And I know our CEO Ehren Cory will want to tell you in more detail about the improvements that we are making.

We also have a very clear mandate from our shareholder, the government of Canada. And they have told us that they want us to focus on the future, to accelerate financing and funding for infrastructure to ensure that things that might not get built when we need to get them built are built in a timely way to see the recovery coming out of the pandemic accelerated.

I'm very optimistic about the future of the Bank. We have a lot of work to do however. And our new CEO and the management team have been head down, focused on getting investments done with partners in both the public and private sector.

I know how important the role of the Bank is, not only to our shareholders but to our communities and the people who rely on infrastructure to get to work, to get to school, to see loved ones and to build our communities.

I'm very thankful to have the opportunity to chair the board of the Canada Infrastructure Bank and I look forward to continuing to engage with you as we conduct our important work.

And now, I like to turn it over to Ehren Cory, the CEO of Canada Infrastructure Bank to tell you more about the work that we are doing.

Thank you