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Estimates Note Advice to the Minister

Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services
Minister Responsible: Hon. Olga Ilich

Cliff:

Date: February 27, 2007

Issue: February Statutory Holiday

Advice and Recommended Response:

- Typically this question comes up each year, as it is a long stretch between the New Years and Easter statutory holidays.
- BC has 9 statutory holidays. Only Saskatchewan has more at 10 days per year, whereas P.E.I only has 6.
- We have no plans to bring in a new statutory holiday in February.
- Many people plan some holidays during this stretch to break up the time.

Background/Status:

- The nine statutory holidays in British Columbia are:
 - New Years Day
 - Good Friday
 - Victoria Day
 - Canada Day
 - B.C. Day
 - Labour Day
 - Thanksgiving Day
 - Remembrance Day
 - Christmas Day

Easter Sunday, Easter Monday and Boxing Day are not statutory holidays.

- The number of stats varies by province. Saskatchewan has the most, with ten, British Columbia has nine, while P.E.I. enjoys only six.
- Each statutory holiday carries a high cost. Last year, John Winter of the Chamber of Commerce cited a cost of \$270 million in lost productivity for each statutory holiday.

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