



# Issue Update

## Deregulation Report Released

The Minister of State for Deregulation, Kevin Falcon has released the first “Quarterly Progress Report” detailing the initial efforts of the deregulation initiative in British Columbia. In his introduction to the report Falcon reiterates his government’s commitment to openness and transparency and advises that these reports will be forthcoming on a quarterly basis over the next few years as the initiative progresses.

To date the deregulation initiative has been comprised primarily of review and consultation. The Red Tape Reduction Task force met in late November to identify priorities for deregulation in a number of areas, many of which would address concerns voiced by the construction industry. Each Ministry was asked to provide a three-year deregulation plan to the Minister of State for Deregulation, and these were submitted at the end of January, 2002.

In addition to working towards a reduction of red tape, a policy has also been established regarding the creation of any new regulations. Any new legislation must now meet a set of ten criteria that includes, among others, such requirements as plain language, sunset review and expiry provisions, and cost-benefit analysis.

The report goes into detail regarding the number of regulations currently in force in the province, and allocates them to specific Ministries. In keeping with the stated goal of reducing all regulation by 1/3, each Ministry has identified the number of regulations within their bailiwick that must be cut.

A breakdown of changes by Ministry and a list of all fees and licences eliminated as of March 29, 2002 are available with this report and can be viewed on-line at the B.C. Government website. Please refer to: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/deregulation>

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