



Les MacLaren
Assistant Deputy Minister
Electricity and Alternative Energy Division
Ministry of Energy

Les holds a BSc in Geology from Queen's University and an MBA from the University of British Columbia. After working for 10 years in oil and gas exploration and development and in western Canada and Australia, and completing his MBA, Les joined the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources in 1991 as an Economist in the Electricity Policy Branch.

From 1998-2008, Les was Executive Director, Performance Monitoring and Advisory Services, at the Crown Agencies Secretariat in the Ministry of Finance, where he had responsibility for BC Hydro, BC Transmission Corporation and other commercial Crown corporations in the gaming, insurance, transportation, and liquor distribution sectors.

In his various roles, Les has worked on a number of major projects that impact British Columbia's energy sector and related Crown corporations. These include negotiations leading to the return of the Canadian Entitlement to Columbia River Treaty downstream power benefits, the 2002 *Energy Plan* and implementation, restructuring the Columbia Basin Initiative, and the development of power sales agreements between BC Hydro and Alcan.

In February 2008, Les rejoined the Ministry of Energy as the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Electricity and Alternative Energy Division. In this role, Les is accountable for electricity policy, including BC's new *Clean Energy Act*, inter-jurisdictional relations related to planning and reliability, energy efficiency policy and programs, and emerging and renewable energy technologies such as hydrogen, ocean energy and biofuels.