

# BC Government Unveils Plan to Conduct a Hydraulic Fracturing Review

March 21, 2018

On March 15, 2018, Minister Michelle Mungall (Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) unveiled the provincial government's plan to conduct an independent, scientific review of hydraulic fracturing. The review, headed by a three-person panel, will focus on the environmental effects of hydraulic fracturing, including its relationship with seismic activity, impacts on water quality and quantity, and fugitive methane emissions.

The members of the panel were announced as: Diana M. Allen, P. Geo, a professor in the department of earth sciences at SFU; Erik Eberhardt, P. Eng, a professor of rock mechanics and rock engineering at UBC; and Amanda Bustin, PhD, a research associate at UBC. Nalaine Morin will advise the panel with respect to traditional Indigenous knowledge.

The panel will work toward a tight timeline to provide a report to the Minister by the end of 2018. The report will include a review of provincial regulations and recommendations. The panel's review will include scientific evidence from organizations and experts, as well as traditional Indigenous knowledge from First Nations. The panel will also turn to academics, industry associations, communities in northeastern British Columbia, Treaty 8 First Nations, and environmental organizations.

This will be the second report on hydraulic fracturing in three years: In 2015, the previous provincial government commissioned Ernst & Young to conduct an independent report on hydraulic fracturing. That report found British Columbia had a robust regulatory framework in place to oversee hydraulic fracturing.

The province has not yet released information on public and industry hearings or opportunities to contribute information to the review.

**Provincial News Release and Panel Members' Biographies, [available here](#).**

By:

[Ramsey Glass](#)

Services:

[Environmental](#), [Energy – Power](#), [Energy - Oil & Gas](#)

---

## BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

[blg.com](http://blg.com)

### BLG Offices

#### Calgary

Centennial Place, East Tower  
520 3rd Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, AB, Canada  
T2P 0R3

T 403.232.9500  
F 403.266.1395

#### Ottawa

World Exchange Plaza  
100 Queen Street  
Ottawa, ON, Canada  
K1P 1J9

T 613.237.5160  
F 613.230.8842

#### Vancouver

1200 Waterfront Centre  
200 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
V7X 1T2

T 604.687.5744  
F 604.687.1415

#### Montréal

1000 De La Gauchetière Street West  
Suite 900  
Montréal, QC, Canada  
H3B 5H4

T 514.954.2555  
F 514.879.9015

#### Toronto

Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower  
22 Adelaide Street West  
Toronto, ON, Canada  
M5H 4E3

T 416.367.6000  
F 416.367.6749

The information contained herein is of a general nature and is not intended to constitute legal advice, a complete statement of the law, or an opinion on any subject. No one should act upon it or refrain from acting without a thorough examination of the law after the facts of a specific situation are considered. You are urged to consult your legal adviser in cases of specific questions or concerns. BLG does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy, currency or completeness of this publication. No part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written permission of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. If this publication was sent to you by BLG and you do not wish to receive further publications from BLG, you may ask to remove your contact information from our mailing lists by emailing [unsubscribe@blg.com](mailto:unsubscribe@blg.com) or manage your subscription preferences at [blg.com/MyPreferences](http://blg.com/MyPreferences). If you feel you have received this message in error please contact [communications@blg.com](mailto:communications@blg.com). BLG's privacy policy for publications may be found at [blg.com/en/privacy](http://blg.com/en/privacy).

© 2023 Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is an Ontario Limited Liability Partnership.