
First Session, Forty-third Parliament
3 Charles III, 2025
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

BILL 15

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ACT

Honourable Bowinn Ma
Minister of Infrastructure

Explanatory Note

This Bill provides for the designation of different types of infrastructure projects and the authorization by the Lieutenant Governor in Council to use specified streamlining options in relation to infrastructure projects that have been designated.

BILL 15 – 2025

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ACT

Contents

PART 1 – DEFINITIONS

- 1 Definitions

PART 2 – MINISTER’S POWERS

- 2 Minister’s general powers – infrastructure projects
- 3 Minister’s powers – category 1 projects

PART 3 – DESIGNATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- 4 Designation of infrastructure projects
- 5 Authorizations for designated projects

PART 4 – STREAMLINING DESIGNATED PROJECTS

Division 1 – Streamlined Permitting

- 6 Qualified professional certifications
- 7 Prioritization of provincial permits
- 8 Reviewable projects under *Environmental Assessment Act*

Division 2 – Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation

- 9 Request for varying requirements in provincial legislation

Division 3 – Process to Expedite Designated Projects

- 10 Application of Division
- 11 Expeditious completion of designated projects
- 12 Consultations for removal of constraints
- 13 Designated project completion
- 14 Designated project performance
- 15 Monitoring performance
- 16 Appointment of consultants and experts
- 17 Costs may be recovered
- 18 Authorization in respect of constraints
- 19 Orders respecting constraints
- 20 Engagement with Indigenous peoples

**PART 5 – APPLICATION OF OTHER ENACTMENTS
TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

- 21 *College and Institute Act*
- 22 *Health Authorities Act*
- 23 *Hospital Act*
- 24 *School Act*

PART 6 – GENERAL

- 25 Section 5 of the *Offence Act*

- 26 General regulation-making powers
- 27 Regulations relating to designations of infrastructure projects
- 28 Regulations relating to qualified professional certifications
- 29 Regulations relating to prioritization of provincial permits
- 30 Regulations relating to reviewable projects under *Environmental Assessment Act*

PART 7 – REPEAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

Division 1 – Repeal

- 31 Repeal

Division 2 – Consequential Amendments

- 32 – 47 Consequential Amendments
- 48 Commencement

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

PART 1 – DEFINITIONS

Definitions

- 1** In this Act:

“**approval authority**” means

- (a) a specified authority,
- (b) an agent of a specified authority, and
- (c) any other prescribed person or entity;

“**category 1 project**” means the following:

- (a) an infrastructure project that is designated under section 4 (1) (a) (i) [*designation of infrastructure projects*];
- (b) a class of infrastructure projects that is designated under section 4 (1) (a) (ii);

“**category 2 project**” means an infrastructure project that is designated under section 4 (1) (b);

“**constraint**”, in relation to an infrastructure project, means a measure that, unless replaced under section 12 [*consultations for removal of constraints*] or 19 [*orders respecting constraints*], may impede or otherwise interfere with the completion or operations of the infrastructure project;

“**designated project**” means the following:

- (a) a category 1 project;
- (b) a category 2 project;

“**infrastructure project**” includes the planning, development, construction, modification and dismantling of infrastructure;

“**measure**” means an enactment, directive, requirement, guideline, plan, program, policy, practice or procedure;

“**proponent**”, in relation to a designated project, means the person named as the proponent in a regulation made under section 4;

“**provincial permit**” has the prescribed meaning;

“**qualified professional**” has the prescribed meaning;

“**specified authority**” means,

- (a) in relation to a municipality, the council of a municipality, including the council of the City of Vancouver,
- (b) in relation to a regional district, the board of a regional district,
- (c) in relation to a trust area under the *Islands Trust Act*, the local trust committee as defined in section 1 of that Act,
- (d) in relation to the University Endowment Land, the minister responsible for the administration of the *University Endowment Land Act*, and
- (e) a prescribed person or entity;

“**University Endowment Land**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *University Endowment Land Act*.

PART 2 – MINISTER’S POWERS

Minister’s general powers – infrastructure projects

- 2 (1) The minister may do the following in relation to infrastructure projects:
- (a) establish policies relating to infrastructure projects;
 - (b) plan and manage infrastructure projects;
 - (c) make recommendations for the effective coordination and development of infrastructure projects;
 - (d) make recommendations regarding priorities for infrastructure projects;
 - (e) acquire land, on behalf of the government or on behalf of a prescribed person or entity, or a prescribed class of persons or entities, by purchase, lease or otherwise, for present or future infrastructure projects;
 - (f) dispose of land, or make land available, to any prescribed person or entity or prescribed class of persons or entities;
 - (g) transfer the administration of land to another minister of the government with the consent of that other minister;
 - (h) exercise any other prescribed power.

- (2) With the consent of the minister, another minister of the government who has the administration of land may, for the purposes of this Act, transfer the administration of the land to the minister.

Minister's powers – category 1 projects

- 3** The minister has the following powers in relation to a category 1 project:
- (a) the power to develop, construct or alter a category 1 project or provide services in relation to developing, constructing or altering a category 1 project;
 - (b) the power to act as a general contractor or project manager, or provide or arrange for general contractor services or project management services, for a category 1 project;
 - (c) the power to acquire, by purchase, rental or otherwise, equipment, fixtures and other property, real or personal and movable or immovable, required for a category 1 project;
 - (d) any other prescribed power.

PART 3 – DESIGNATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Designation of infrastructure projects

- 4** (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, on the recommendation of the minister, make regulations to
- (a) designate the following as a category 1 project:
 - (i) an infrastructure project;
 - (ii) a class of infrastructure projects, or
 - (b) designate a provincially significant infrastructure project as a category 2 project.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may establish eligibility requirements for a designation under subsection (1).
- (3) A designation under subsection (1) (a) (i) or (b) must include a description of the infrastructure project that sets out the following:
- (a) the scope of the infrastructure project;
 - (b) the intended purpose of the infrastructure project;
 - (c) anticipated constraints, if applicable;
 - (d) the name of the proponent of the infrastructure project;
 - (e) any other prescribed details of the infrastructure project.
- (4) A designation under subsection (1) (a) (ii) must set out the following:
- (a) the name of the proponent of each infrastructure project in the class;
 - (b) any other prescribed details of the class of infrastructure projects.

Authorizations for designated projects

- 5** (1) In making a regulation under section 4, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may authorize the minister to do one or more of the following in respect of the designated project:
- (a) use a qualified professional certification in accordance with section 6;
 - (b) use the permitting prioritization process in accordance with section 7;
 - (c) exercise the powers set out in section 8 *[reviewable projects under Environmental Assessment Act]*;
 - (d) use the expedited process in Division 3 *[Process to Expedite Designated Projects]* of Part 4 *[Streamlining Designated Projects]*.
- (2) In making a regulation under section 4, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may do one or more of the following:
- (a) direct the use of the expedited environmental assessment under Part 7.1 *[Expedited Environmental Assessment for Designated Infrastructure Projects]* of the *Environmental Assessment Act*;
 - (b) specify that Division 2 *[Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation]* of Part 4 *[Streamlining Designated Projects]* of this Act applies;
 - (c) include terms, conditions and restrictions in respect of an authorization under this section.

PART 4 – STREAMLINING DESIGNATED PROJECTS

Division 1 – Streamlined Permitting

Qualified professional certifications

- 6** (1) If authorized in a regulation under section 4, a certification issued or provided by a qualified professional may be used in accordance with this section and the regulations.
- (2) A qualified professional may, in accordance with the regulations, issue or provide a certification
- (a) that takes the place of an approval, permit, licence or other authorization that would otherwise be required under a prescribed enactment, or
 - (b) that requires the issuance or provision of an approval, permit, licence or other authorization under a prescribed enactment that is required under that enactment.
- (3) If a qualified professional certification is issued or provided under this section, the certification must be considered to be the approval, permit, licence or other authorization that is required under the prescribed enactment and to have been issued or provided under that enactment.

Prioritization of provincial permits

- 7 (1) In this section:
- “**regulator**” means a person or entity that issues or provides a provincial permit;
 - “**review**” includes a review, assessment or other determination about the issuance or provision of a provincial permit.
- (2) If authorized in a regulation under section 4 [*designation of infrastructure projects*], the minister may require a regulator to prioritize the designated project in accordance with the regulations of the minister referred to in subsection (3).
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the minister may make regulations establishing a permitting prioritization process to expedite a regulator’s review of the designated project, including, without limitation, by imposing timelines.
- (4) If the minister considers that the permitting prioritization process will not sufficiently expedite the review and the issuance or provision of the provincial permit, the minister may make a recommendation for the purposes of subsection (5).
- (5) On a recommendation under subsection (4), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may take one or more prescribed actions.

Reviewable projects under *Environmental Assessment Act*

- 8 (1) In this section:
- “**approval under another enactment**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Environmental Assessment Act*;
 - “**environmental assessment certificate**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Environmental Assessment Act*;
 - “**reviewable project**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), if authorized in a regulation under section 4 [*designation of infrastructure projects*], the minister may, in relation to a designated project that is also a reviewable project and with respect to which an environmental assessment certificate has been issued, order a person, board, tribunal or agency that has the authority to issue an approval under other enactments to issue the approval
- (a) within a specified time,
 - (b) in accordance with any conditions specified in the order, and
 - (c) subject to other reasonable conditions that the person, board, tribunal or agency considers appropriate.

- (3) The powers in subsection (2) may not be exercised in respect of a specified authority.
- (4) Despite another enactment, the issuance of an approval under another enactment specified under subsection (1) is
 - (a) final and binding, and
 - (b) not subject to review or appeal under the other enactment.
- (5) The powers in subsection (2) may only be exercised in accordance with the regulations.

Division 2 – Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation

Request for varying requirements in provincial legislation

- 9 (1) If this Division applies in relation to a designated project located within the boundaries of a specified authority, the specified authority may make a request, in accordance with the regulations, that the Lieutenant Governor in Council exercise the power conferred under subsection (3) to expedite the designated project.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may consider a request under subsection (1) for the purpose of determining whether to exercise the power conferred under subsection (3).
- (3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, do the following, in relation to a designated project, in respect of provisions described in subsection (4) that include a requirement prescribed under subsection (6) of this section:
 - (a) make an exemption from one or more requirements in the provision;
 - (b) modify a requirement set in a provision;
 - (c) establish terms and conditions in relation to anything done under paragraph (a) or (b).
- (4) The following are the provisions for the purposes of subsection (3):
 - (a) a provision of the *Islands Trust Act*;
 - (b) a provision of Part 13 [*Regional Growth Strategies*] or Part 14 [*Planning and Land Use Management*] of the *Local Government Act*;
 - (c) a provision of the *University Endowment Land Act*;
 - (d) a provision of Part XXVII [*Planning and Development*] of the *Vancouver Charter*.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations respecting requests under that subsection.

- (6) For the purposes of subsection (3), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may prescribe requirements other than the following:
- (a) a requirement in relation to section 488 (1) (a), (b), (c), (i) or (k) *[designation of development permit areas]* of the *Local Government Act*;
 - (b) a requirement in relation to a provision in the *Vancouver Charter* that addresses matters that are similar to the matters addressed in section 488 (1) (a), (b), (c), (i) or (k) of the *Local Government Act*.

Division 3 – Process to Expedite Designated Projects

Application of Division

- 10** This Division applies to a designated project if the regulation under section 4 *[designation of infrastructure projects]* for the designated project authorizes the use of the expedited process in this Division.

Expeditious completion of designated projects

- 11** The minister may require every approval authority having jurisdiction in respect of a constraint to take all reasonable actions to
- (a) ensure that decisions they are required to make in relation to the designated project are made expeditiously, and
 - (b) if and to the extent that it is decided that the designated project is to proceed, facilitate the expeditious completion and intended operations of the designated project.

Consultations for removal of constraints

- 12**
- (1) If the proponent considers that a designated project is being or may be impeded by a constraint, the proponent must consult with the approval authority having jurisdiction over that constraint in order to arrive at a means by which the completion and operations of the designated project can be facilitated in a manner that is consistent with the reasonable requirements of the approval authority.
 - (2) If the minister is the proponent, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by order, appoint a facilitator under section 16 (a) *[appointment of consultants and experts]* to facilitate the consultations referred to in subsection (1) of this section.
 - (3) If the minister is not the proponent, the minister may, by order, appoint a facilitator under section 16 (b) to facilitate the consultations referred to in subsection (1) of this section.

- (4) Once a facilitator becomes involved under subsection (2) or (3), the proponent and the affected approval authority must provide information as requested by the facilitator and must otherwise cooperate with the facilitator in fulfilling their responsibilities.
- (5) If a proponent and an approval authority are able, through the consultation process contemplated by this section, to reach agreement on how a measure that is perceived by the proponent to be a constraint on a designated project can be overcome in a manner that is consistent with the reasonable requirements of the approval authority, the parties must
 - (a) enter into an implementation agreement in which
 - (i) the measure that is perceived to be a constraint is identified,
 - (ii) the measures that the parties have agreed are to replace the constraint are specified,
 - (iii) the approval authority agrees to waive performance of the constraint identified in subparagraph (i) if the proponent performs the replacement measures specified under subparagraph (ii),
 - (iv) the proponent agrees to perform the replacement measures specified under subparagraph (ii), and
 - (v) prescribed matters are addressed, and
 - (b) in the case in which the proponent is not the minister, submit the implementation agreement to the minister for approval.
- (6) If an implementation agreement is submitted to the minister under subsection (5) (b), the minister may approve the agreement.
- (7) If, after an implementation agreement is entered into under this section in relation to a designated project, the implementation agreement is approved by the minister under subsection (6), if applicable, and the replacement measures specified under subsection (5) (a) (ii) are complied with, the following apply to the infrastructure project whether or not the infrastructure project loses its designation as a designated project after the implementation agreement is made:
 - (a) compliance with the replacement measures is considered to be compliance with the constraints they replace;
 - (b) the approval authority must treat the designated project as having complied with the replaced constraints and, without limitation, must
 - (i) issue or provide, or facilitate the issuance or provision of, the permits, approvals and consents that would normally be issued or provided had the replaced constraints actually been complied with, and
 - (ii) take, or cause to be taken, any actions that would normally be taken had the replaced constraints actually been complied with.

- (8) For the purposes of subsection (7) (b), an approval authority referred to in that subsection must issue or provide, or facilitate the issuance or provision of, the permits, approvals and consents referred to in subsection (7) (b) (i), and must take, or cause to be taken, the actions referred to in subsection (7) (b) (ii), in the manner, within the time and on the terms and conditions that
- (a) are specified in the implementation agreement, or
 - (b) if not specified in the implementation agreement, would normally apply had the replaced constraints actually been complied with.

Designated project completion

- 13** (1) This section does not apply in respect of a designated project in relation to which the minister is the proponent.
- (2) The proponent must ensure that a designated project is undertaken, performed and completed
- (a) in accordance with the description of the infrastructure project included in the designation under section 4 (3) [*designation of infrastructure projects*], or in accordance with the prescribed details included in a designation under section 4 (4), as applicable, and
 - (b) in a manner that will allow a designated project to be used only for
 - (i) the purposes identified in the description under section 4 (3), or in the prescribed details under section 4 (4), as applicable, and
 - (ii) other purposes reasonably related to those identified purposes.

Designated project performance

- 14** After replacement measures for a designated project have been set out in an implementation agreement under section 12 (5) or in an order under section 19 (1), (2) or (4) [*orders respecting constraints*], the proponent must ensure that the designated project is undertaken and performed in accordance with the replacement measures and,
- (a) if the designated project is undertaken and performed in accordance with the replacement measures,
 - (i) the constraint replaced by those replacement measures does not apply to a designated project during the period for which it has been replaced,
 - (ii) no person is liable to any fine, penalty or offence for failing, during that period, to comply with the replaced constraint in anything done or omitted to be done in relation to a designated project, and

- (iii) any rights or powers of any person that apply to or in respect of the replaced constraint, and any provisions of any enactment that apply to that constraint, including, without limitation, any offence, penalty, liability or similar provisions that apply in the event of a failure to comply with the replaced constraint, apply to the replacement measure, except to the extent that their application is limited by the implementation agreement or order, or
- (b) if a designated project is not undertaken and performed in accordance with the replacement measures,
 - (i) the constraint the replacement measures were intended to replace applies to the designated project,
 - (ii) any rights or powers of any person that apply to or in respect of the replaced constraint, and any provisions of any enactment that apply to that constraint, including, without limitation, any offence, penalty, liability or similar provisions that apply in the event of a failure to comply with the replaced constraint, continue to apply to a designated project as if no implementation agreement or order had been made, and
 - (iii) the proponent must ensure that a designated project is undertaken and performed in accordance with that constraint.

Monitoring performance

- 15**
- (1) This section does not apply in respect of a designated project in relation to which the minister is the proponent.
 - (2) The minister may, to ensure that a designated project is being undertaken and performed in accordance with sections 13 (2) and 14 (a), monitor a designated project or cause a designated project to be monitored.
 - (3) For the purposes of subsection (2) of this section, the minister may appoint a monitor under section 16 (b).
 - (4) A monitor referred to in subsection (3) of this section may inspect a designated project to ensure that it is being undertaken and performed in accordance with sections 13 (2) and 14 (a) and must
 - (a) carry identification in the prescribed form,
 - (b) present the identification to the owner or occupant of any premises being inspected under this section, and
 - (c) on the conclusion of the inspection, prepare a report on the results of that inspection and provide a copy of that report to the minister.
 - (5) The proponent must, on the request of a monitor referred to in subsection (3), give to the monitor every assistance in connection with the inspection that the proponent is reasonably able to give.

- (6) An oral or written statement or report made by a monitor or any other person in an inspection under this section has qualified privilege.

Appointment of consultants and experts

- 16** For the purposes of this Division,
- (a) in the case of a designated project in relation to which the minister is the proponent, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may at any time appoint facilitators and set their remuneration and the terms of their appointments, and
 - (b) in the case of a designated project in relation to which the minister is not the proponent, the minister may at any time appoint facilitators, monitors, consultants and experts and set their remuneration and the terms of their appointments.

Costs may be recovered

- 17** (1) This section does not apply in respect of a designated project in relation to which the minister is the proponent.
- (2) The minister may order the proponent of a designated project to pay prescribed fees or prescribed charges for all or part of the costs that are incurred, for or in relation to any matter under this Division, by or on behalf of the government or a person appointed under section 16.

Authorization in respect of constraints

- 18** (1) If the proponent of a designated project is not the minister, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in a regulation under section 4 (1) (a) (i) or (ii) [*designation of infrastructure projects*], authorize the minister to approve, subject to section 12 [*consultations for removal of constraints*], the replacement of, and to create measures to replace, any or all of
- (a) specified constraints,
 - (b) constraints of a specified class, and
 - (c) any constraints affecting the designated project.
- (2) If the minister is the proponent of a designated project, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, replace, and create measures to replace, any or all of
- (a) specified constraints,
 - (b) constraints of a specified class, and
 - (c) any constraints affecting the designated project.
- (3) If the proponent of a designated project is not the minister, the proponent must provide to the minister, when and as required by the minister, any information relating to the designated project that the minister may request.

Orders respecting constraints

- 19 (1) If, in the case in which the minister is not the proponent, at any time, the minister considers that an agreement contemplated under section 12 (5) *[consultations for removal of constraints]* in relation to a constraint will not be reached and the constraint is one that the minister has been authorized under section 18 (1) to replace, the minister may
- (a) develop detailed measures to replace the measure that is perceived to be a constraint, and
 - (b) set out those replacement measures in an order.
- (2) If, in the case in which the minister is the proponent, at any time, the minister considers that an agreement contemplated under section 12 (5) in relation to a constraint will not be reached, the minister may
- (a) develop detailed measures to replace the measure that is perceived to be a constraint, and
 - (b) make a recommendation to the Lieutenant Governor in Council to set out those replacement measures in an order.
- (3) In developing the replacement measures referred to in subsection (1) or (2), the minister must consult with the affected approval authority and any facilitator appointed under section 16 *[appointment of consultants and experts]* in respect of the designated project.
- (4) The minister may at any time propose an amendment to an order under this section, or make a recommendation to the Lieutenant Governor in Council to amend an order, as applicable, and, in developing the amendment, the minister must consult with the affected approval authority and any facilitator appointed in respect of a designated project under section 16.
- (5) If an order is made under this section in relation to a designated project and if the replacement measures set out in that order as they apply to the designated project are complied with, the following apply to the infrastructure project whether or not the infrastructure project loses its designation as a designated project after the order is made:
- (a) compliance with the replacement measures is considered to be compliance with the constraints they replace;
 - (b) all affected approval authorities must treat the infrastructure project as having complied with the replaced constraints and, without limitation, must
 - (i) issue or provide, or facilitate the issuance or provision of, the permits, approvals and consents that would normally be issued or provided had the replaced constraints actually been complied with, and
 - (ii) take or cause to be taken any actions that would normally be taken had the replaced constraints actually been complied with.

- (6) For the purposes of subsection (5) (b), an approval authority referred to in that subsection must issue or provide, or facilitate the issuance or provision of, the permits, approvals and consents referred to in subsection (5) (b) (i), and must take, or cause to be taken, the actions referred to in subsection (5) (b) (ii), in the manner, within the time and on the terms and conditions that
- (a) are specified in the order, or
 - (b) if not specified in the order, would normally apply had the replaced constraints actually been complied with.

Engagement with Indigenous peoples

- 20** A regulation under section 18 or an order under section 19 may not be made in relation to provisions of an enactment respecting engagement with Indigenous peoples, as defined in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

**PART 5 – APPLICATION OF OTHER ENACTMENTS TO
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

College and Institute Act

- 21** The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in relation to infrastructure projects and on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of this Act, make orders under section 65 [*transfer of properties from government*] of the *College and Institute Act*.

Health Authorities Act

- 22** The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in relation to infrastructure projects and on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of this Act, make orders under section 17 [*transfer of facilities from the Provincial government*] and regulations under section 21 (3) (d) [*power to make regulations and orders*] of the *Health Authorities Act*.

Hospital Act

- 23** (1) In this section, “**capital planning**” means planning in relation to infrastructure projects.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in relation to infrastructure projects and on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of this Act, make regulations under section 52 (7) (c) [*appointment of examining board or public administrator*] of the *Hospital Act*.
- (3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in relation to the capital planning and construction of hospitals and on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of this Act, make regulations under section 56 (3) (j) [*power to make regulations*] of the *Hospital Act*.

School Act

- 24** The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, in relation to infrastructure projects and on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of this Act, make orders under sections 99 (1) and (2) [*grants of Crown land*] and 175 (2) (e) [*power to make regulations and orders*] of the *School Act*.

PART 6 – GENERAL

Section 5 of the *Offence Act*

- 25** Section 5 of the *Offence Act* does not apply to this Act or regulations or orders made under this Act.

General regulation-making powers

- 26** (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations referred to in section 41 of the *Interpretation Act*.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1) or any other provision of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations respecting any matter for which regulations are contemplated by this Act.
- (3) A regulation under this Act may do any or all of the following:
- (a) delegate a matter to
 - (i) a minister, or
 - (ii) a person who is employed in the government;
 - (b) confer a discretion on
 - (i) a minister, or
 - (ii) a person who is employed in the government;
 - (c) make different regulations in relation to different classes of persons, things, circumstances or other matters and establish classes for that purpose;
 - (d) adopt by reference, in whole, in part or with any changes considered appropriate, a regulation, code, standard or rule
 - (i) enacted as or under a law of another jurisdiction in or outside Canada, or
 - (ii) set by a provincial, national or international body or any other code-, standard- or rule-making bodyas the regulation, code, standard or rule stands at a specific date, as it stands at the time of adoption or as amended from time to time.

Regulations relating to designations of infrastructure projects

- 27 Without limiting any other provisions of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations in relation to a designation of an infrastructure project under Part 3 [*Designation of Infrastructure Projects*], including, without limitation, prescribing conditions, circumstances or prerequisites as eligibility requirements.

Regulations relating to qualified professional certifications

- 28 Without limiting any other provisions of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations establishing a framework for the use of qualified professional certifications, including, without limitation, making the following regulations:
- (a) prescribing the enactments in relation to which a qualified professional certification may be used;
 - (b) establishing the circumstances in which a qualified professional certification may be used and how it may be used;
 - (c) establishing standards for qualified professional certifications;
 - (d) specifying which provisions in an enactment prescribed for the purposes of qualified professional certifications apply, apply with modification or do not apply in relation to a qualified professional certification;
 - (e) establishing a registry of qualified professionals;
 - (f) establishing standards or requirements for qualified professionals;
 - (g) establishing procedures for non-compliance with the standards or requirements for qualified professionals, including, without limitation, the removal from the registry of qualified professionals referred to in paragraph (e);
 - (h) establishing fees or charges for qualified professional certifications.

Regulations relating to prioritization of provincial permits

- 29 Without limiting any other provisions of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing actions for the purposes of section 7 (5) [*prioritization of provincial permits*], including, without limitation, imposing a completion date for prioritization or the issuance or provision of a provincial permit.

**Regulations relating to reviewable projects
under *Environmental Assessment Act***

- 30 Without limiting any other provisions of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of section 8 (5) [*reviewable projects under Environmental Assessment Act*], including, without limitation, establishing the circumstances in which the powers under that section may be exercised.

**PART 7 – REPEAL AND
CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS**

Division 1 – Repeal

Repeal

- 31** The *Significant Projects Streamlining Act*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 100, is repealed.

Division 2 – Consequential Amendments

College and Institute Act

- 32** *Section 63 of the College and Institute Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 52, is repealed and the following substituted:*

Planning, evaluation and reports

- 63** (1) In this section, “**infrastructure project**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.
- (2) An institution must
- (a) plan for and evaluate its programs and operations on an ongoing basis,
 - (b) on the request of the minister, report on its programs and operation in a form the minister directs, and
 - (c) on the request of the minister responsible for the administration of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, report on infrastructure projects in a form that minister directs.

- 33** *Section 65 is amended by adding the following subsection:*

- (0.1) This section is subject to section 21 [*College and Institute Act*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

Environmental Assessment Act

34 *The Environmental Assessment Act, S.B.C. 2018, c. 51, is amended by adding the following Part:*

**PART 7.1 – EXPEDITED ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT FOR DESIGNATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Definitions

71.1 In this Part:

“**designated infrastructure project**” means the following:

- (a) a category 1 project as defined in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*;
- (b) a category 2 project as defined in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*;

“**expedited environmental assessment**” means an expedited environmental assessment conducted in accordance this Part;

“**infrastructure proponent**” means a proponent as defined in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

Expedited environmental assessment

- 71.2** (1) If directed in a regulation under section 4 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, an environmental assessment of a designated infrastructure project that is a reviewable project must be conducted in accordance with the process established under this Part.
- (2) Subject to the regulations, the following provisions of this Act do not apply to an environmental assessment under this Part:
- (a) Part 3, other than sections 6 to 8;
 - (b) Part 4;
 - (c) Part 5, other than sections 21, 22 and 31 to 33;
 - (d) Part 6, other than sections 40, 47 and 48.
- (3) An environmental assessment under this Part must be completed within a prescribed period.
- (4) An environmental assessment certificate issued under this Part is to be considered to be an environmental assessment certificate issued under Part 5.

**Power to make regulations –
expedited environmental assessment**

- 71.3** (1) Without limiting any other provision of this Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the minister responsible for the administration of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, may make regulations for the purposes of this Part, including, without limitation, the following regulations:
- (a) prescribing a period for the purpose of section 71.2 (3);
 - (b) establishing a process of assessment, including, without limitation,
 - (i) establishing the scope of the assessment,
 - (ii) establishing the methods and procedures of an assessment,
 - (iii) establishing timelines of an assessment,
 - (iv) prescribing consensus-seeking opportunities in relation to participating Indigenous nations, and
 - (v) prescribing requirements for public participation and engagement;
 - (c) prescribing how the expedited environmental assessment is to be conducted and who may conduct an expedited environmental assessment;
 - (d) prescribing how to determine whether to issue an environmental assessment certificate;
 - (e) authorizing the issuance of an environmental assessment certificate, including, without limitation, the issuance of a certificate with conditions;
 - (f) authorizing the refusal to issue an environmental assessment certificate.
- (2) A regulation made under this section may
- (a) be made applicable to
 - (i) a specific designated infrastructure project or infrastructure proponent, or
 - (ii) a class of designated infrastructure projects or a class of infrastructure proponents, and
 - (b) provide differently for different projects or classes.

Health Authorities Act

- 35** *Section 17 of the Health Authorities Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 180, is amended by adding the following subsection:*

(0.1) This section is subject to section 22 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

- 36 *Section 21 (3) (d) is amended by adding “subject to section 22 of the Infrastructure Projects Act,” before “to enable”.*

Hospital Act

- 37 *Section 52 of the Hospital Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 200, is amended*

(a) by adding the following subsection:

(0.1) In this section:

“appointing minister” means, as applicable, the minister who appoints an examining board under subsection (1) or (1.1);

“capital planning” means planning in relation to infrastructure projects;

“infrastructure project” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act* ,

(b) in subsection (1) (a) by striking out “planning, construction or operation” and substituting “planning, other than capital planning, or operation”,

(c) by adding the following subsection:

(1.1) If the minister responsible for the administration of the *Infrastructure Projects Act* considers it necessary in the public interest, the minister may appoint an examining board to

(a) examine any aspect of the capital planning and construction of a hospital, and

(b) hear and receive evidence about it. ,

(d) in subsections (2) and (3) by striking out “the minister” wherever it appears and substituting “the appointing minister”, and

(e) by repealing subsection (7) (c) and substituting the following:

(c) the planning, other than capital planning, or operation of the hospital after the termination of the appointment of the public administrator;

(d) subject to section 23 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, the capital planning or construction of the hospital after the termination of the appointment of the public administrator.

- 38 *Section 56 (3) (j) is amended by adding “subject to section 23 of the Infrastructure Projects Act,” before “the terms”.*

Islands Trust Act

- 39** *The Islands Trust Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 239, is amended by adding the following section:*

Interpretation

- 1.1** This Act is subject to Division 2 [*Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation*] of Part 4 [*Streamlining Designated Projects*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

Local Government Act

- 40** *The Local Government Act, R.S.B.C. 2015, c. 1, is amended by adding the following section to Division 1 of Part 13:*

Interpretation

- 425.1** This Part is subject to Division 2 [*Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation*] of Part 4 [*Streamlining Designated Projects*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

- 41** *The following section is added to Division 1 of Part 14:*

Interpretation

- 454.1** This Part is subject to Division 2 [*Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation*] of Part 4 [*Streamlining Designated Projects*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

School Act

- 42** *Section 99 of the School Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 412, is amended by adding the following subsection:*

- (0.1) This section is subject to section 24 [*School Act*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

- 43** *Section 175 is amended by adding the following subsection:*

- (0.1) This section is subject to section 24 [*School Act*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

University Act

44 *Section 49 of the University Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 468, is amended by adding the following subsections:*

- (0.1) In this section, “**infrastructure project**” has the same meaning as in section 1 of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.
- (1.1) At the request of the minister responsible for the administration of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, a university must provide that minister with reports and any other information that that minister considers necessary to carry out that minister’s responsibilities in relation to infrastructure projects.

University Endowment Land Act

45 *The University Endowment Land Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 469, is amended by adding the following section:*

Interpretation

- 1.1** This Act is subject to Division 2 [*Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation*] of Part 4 [*Streamlining Designated Projects*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

Vancouver Charter

46 *Section 559 of the Vancouver Charter, S.B.C. 1953, c. 55, is amended*

(a) by renumbering the section as section 559 (1), and

(b) by adding the following subsection:

- (2) This Part is subject to Division 2 [*Varying Requirements in Provincial Legislation*] of Part 4 [*Streamlining Designated Projects*] of the *Infrastructure Projects Act*.

Water Sustainability Act

47 *Section 84 (2) (i) of the Water Sustainability Act, S.B.C. 2014, c. 15, is repealed.*

Commencement

- 48** The provisions of this Act referred to in column 1 of the following table come into force as set out in column 2 of the table:

Item	Column 1 Provisions of Act	Column 2 Commencement
1	Anything not elsewhere covered by this table	The date of Royal Assent
2	Section 1	By regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council
3	Sections 3 to 47	By regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council