

**Joint Decision 2017-1
of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba (the “Parties”)
Pursuant to Article 21(3) of the
New West Partnership Trade Agreement**

Introduction

1. Article 21(3) of the *New West Partnership Trade Agreement* (“**NWPTA**”) allows the Parties to issue a joint decision at any time relating to the interpretation of the NWPTA. Any such joint decision is binding on panels and any subsequent decision or award by a panel issued under NWPTA Part IV must be consistent with any such preceding joint decision. The Parties intend the following to be a joint decision under Article 21(3) concerning the application of the NWPTA to certain measures relating to venture capital corporations.

Application of NWPTA to Certain Measures Relating to Venture Capital Corporations

2. The existing investment requirements of *The Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act* (Manitoba), *The Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act* (Saskatchewan) and *Small Business Venture Capital Act* (British Columbia) fall within the scope of paragraph A(1)(c) of NWPTA Part V.

3. This Joint Decision shall apply to Manitoba as of January 1, 2017, notwithstanding the date of signature.

APPROVAL OF JOINT DECISION

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Joint Decision.

Signed at _____, this _____ day of _____, 2016.

**The Honourable Teresa Wat, Minister of International Trade
Government of British Columbia**

Signed at _____, this _____ day of _____, 2016.

**The Honourable Deron Bilous, Minister of Economic Development and Trade
Government of Alberta**

Signed at _____, this _____ day of _____, 2016.

**The Honourable Jeremy Harrison, Minister of the Economy
Government of Saskatchewan**

Signed at _____, this _____ day of _____, 2016.

**The Honourable Cliff Cullen, Minister Growth, Enterprise and Trade
Government of Manitoba**