WHEREAS a declaration of a state of emergency throughout the whole of the Province of British Columbia was declared on March 18, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS consumers have an expectation to be able to purchase essential goods and supplies at prices that are reasonable, given supply chain considerations;

AND WHEREAS section 10 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* provides that I may do all acts and implement all procedures that I consider necessary to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of any emergency or disaster;

I, Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, order that the attached Prohibition on Unconscionable Prices for Essential Goods and Supplies (COVID-19) Order is made.
PROHIBITION ON UNCONSCIONABLE PRICES
FOR ESSENTIAL GOODS AND SUPPLIES (COVID-19) ORDER

Definitions

1 In this order:

“essential goods and supplies” means any goods and supplies that are necessary for
the health, safety and welfare of people, including, without limitation, the
following:
(a) food, water and other beverages;
(b) fuel and gasoline;
(c) health care goods, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies;
(d) personal hygiene, sanitation and cleaning goods;

“unconscionable price”, in relation to selling or offering to sell essential goods and
supplies, means a price that grossly exceeds the price at which similar essential
goods and supplies are available in similar transactions to similar consumers.

Application

2 This order applies during the period that starts on the date this order is made and ends
on the date on which the last extension of the declaration of a state of emergency made
March 18, 2020 under section 9 (1) of the Emergency Program Act expires or is
cancelled.

Prohibition on unconscionable prices

3 A person must not sell or offer to sell essential goods and supplies in a retail
environment at an unconscionable price.