



### Bob in the News:

*"Simpson is right. Time will tell if the other MLAs will do the right thing, and back his proposed change."*

Times Colonist editorial:  
*A better date for next election* Nov. 26th 2011



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**For more on what Bob has  
been up to, on your behalf,  
see:**

**[www.bobsimpsonmla.ca](http://www.bobsimpsonmla.ca)**

## Cariboo North Update

December 9th 2011

### Economic Activity in Nazko

This week I participated in a community meeting in Nazko to address concerns raised by some area residents regarding a new log storage facility near Nazko. Work schedules, road conditions, and noise were the top concerns. I will continue to work with industry, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations and the Ministry of Transportation to address these concerns. Thank you to residents, government and industry representatives for attending this constructive meeting.

### Working with Local Government

I had the opportunity to meet with the new city councils in Quesnel and Williams Lake as well as the new Cariboo Regional District Board. Issues raised included the upcoming mid-term timber supply for the Cariboo, the need to continue productive and respectful relations with First Nations and expanding affordable housing options. There are great challenges our region faces over the next few years and I look forward to working with the local governments of the Cariboo to address these matters. Congratulations to those elected and thank you to all who put their name forward to run for public office.

### Transparency - Making My Expenses Public

This week I started posting my travel expense reports on my website [www.bobsimpsonmla.ca](http://www.bobsimpsonmla.ca). The press immediately labeled this a challenge to all other MLAs to become more "transparent" and suggested I wouldn't be very popular with my colleagues in the Legislature. I also got lots of airtime on the issue and kudos from the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation.

However, making my expense reports public had nothing to do with the other MLAs and was not a challenge in any way to their integrity. It was simply about fulfilling a promise I made earlier in the year when the Legislative Assembly Management Committee (LAMC) made a decision to only report on the total annual expenses incurred by MLAs and not their detailed accounts. I didn't agree with that decision, as I believe there's nothing to hide in our detailed expense accounts and lots to be gained from being fully transparent with the public.

