1. **Population changes as a function of natural birthrate.**

* Births outnumber deaths due to lower infant mortality and increased life expectancy.

1. **Population changes as a function of the Canadian federal government policy**

* Federal government policy encouraged immigration from Europe and the United States, while Asians and non-whites were discouraged. A non-racial, points-based system was introduced in 1967, leading to a more multicultural society. Today, immigration to British Columbia is heavily weighted toward Asian migration.

1. **Population changes as a result of interprovincial migration.**

* Primarily a function of economic conditions, the "push" of job loss and poor economic prospects or the "pull" of good economic times lures people into or out of the province. Positive net migration resulted from high prices for commodities and construction for the 2010 Olympics.

1. **Projection of BC's Future Population**

* The future population of British Columbia can be projected based on past trends in natural increase and net migration.
* The trend toward an ageing population will continue into 2021, with implications for the province, from the health care system to housing and tourism.

1. **Projection of BC's Future Regional Population**

* The population is projected to increase by approximately one and a half million by 2031, but this increase is not evenly distributed.
* Regions such as the Lower Mainland are expected to grow more rapidly, while the Kootenays and northern areas are projected to have more modest growth. This reflects the dual economies in the province: the resource-dependent hinterland is expected to grow more slowly than the core, or heartland, which is much more influenced by the service economy.