

don Campbell said Monday he will scrap the controversial harmonized sales tax if that's how a majority of British Columbians vote in a provincewide referendum set for Sept. 24, 2011.

"If 50 per cent of the people who show up at the polling

interview. "People have been very clear to me and to the government that they want to be included in a decision of this magnitude," he said. "The point is to include people."

The startling announcement

of the HST issue. Campbell's announcement came less than an hour after a legislative committee considering an anti-HST petition voted to hold the 2011 referendum rather than refer the issue to the legislature for a debate that

Officials said Monday the referendum — technically, an initiative vote — could cost as much as \$30 million if British Columbians are asked to cast ballots, and about \$12 million if the process is conducted by mail.

An initiative vote requires a

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EAGER TO HIT THE HIGH SEAS



WAYNE LEIDENFROST/PNG

Sara Cooper gets into her vessel with some help from Ryan Shannon on Monday as she prepares for the Mobility Cup, Canada's annual international regatta for sailors with disabilities. Novice and experienced entrants will sail in two classes on English Bay until Friday.

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BY JONA ANDREA VANCOUVER S

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