



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
of BRITISH COLUMBIA



**Ronna-Rae Leonard MLA**  
Courtenay-Comox Constituency



The first Government caucus meeting of your new parliament.

As I reflect on 2017 and the past legislative session, I'm most proud of the new direction our NDP government has taken to put people first in BC.

We've acted quickly to help those most in need by raising assistance rates, by opening doors to education and job opportunities, and we've taken the first steps in providing affordable housing solutions.

We're moving forward, economically, confident in a bright future for everyone in British Columbia.

Courtenay-Comox is full of community minded and highly engaged citizens who inspire the work that I do every day. Please continue to reach out and share your ideas with me. Together we will build a better BC.

**Happy New Year!**

# Making Life Better in the Comox Valley

- 
- Reduced taxes for small businesses from 2.5% to 2%
  - Free adult basic education
  - Building a reputation as a consultative government
  - 38 new childcare spaces in Courtenay-Comox
  - Banned big money in politics - bringing democracy back to the people
  - MSP premiums reduced by 50% with a commitment to eliminate them entirely
  - Cooperating to form a stable minority government
  - Banned the grizzly bear hunt
  - Closed the fixed term lease loophole to protect renters
  - Frozen BC Hydro rates
  - \$100/ month increase to income assistance and disability rates
  - Eliminated PST on hydro for businesses
  - 1.5% increase for the top tax bracket
  - Eliminated driveABLE simulated testing for seniors
  - Bringing back the Human Rights Commission
  - Eliminated fees for parking at the new North Island Hospital

# Building a Better BC...



- At North Island College with Minister of Advanced, Skills, and Training, Melanie Mark where students will be benefitting from tuition-free Adult Basic Education.

Celebrating the return of the Buy BC Program with Minister of Agriculture, Lana Popham, at the Comox Valley Farmers Market.



The opening of the North Courtenay Connector with Comox Minister of Transportation and infrastructure Claire Trevena and Regional District representatives.



- Attending the Comox Valley Exhibition this past summer.



- Pancake breakfast with Santa for the Comox Valley Children's Daycare Society.

- The grand opening of the Comox Valley Hospital with Courtenay-Alberni MP Gord Johns, K'omoks Chief Councillor Nicole Rempel, and Premier John Horgan.



- Tea with residents, participants, and staff of L'Arche's new I Belong Centre where the \$100 increase to disability rates is already making a positive difference in the lives of participants and residents.

Members of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services during province-wide public consultations on the next provincial budget.



Visiting Wachaiy Friendship Centre to hear more about services and opportunities for individuals in the community.



- Getting ready to release a marmot with the Marmot Recovery Foundation.

# Ronna-Rae is working for you

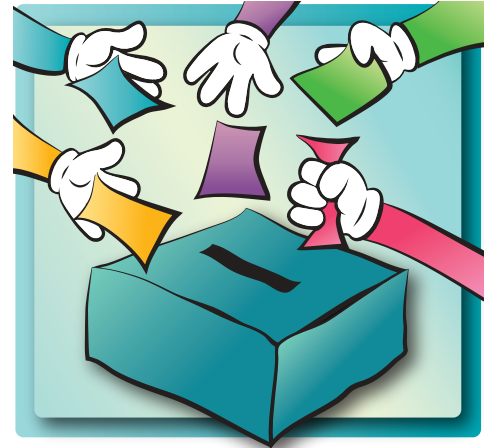
In 2018, BC will vote in a referendum to make **every vote count**

**HOW WE  
VOTE  
TOWN  
HALL**

Join us for an interactive and **FUN Mock Election**  
Have your voice heard!

**FEBRUARY 7<sup>th</sup> 7-9 PM**  
UPPER FLORENCE FILBERG CENTRE  
411 ANDERTON AVENUE IN COURTENAY

**FABULOUS  
PRIZE  
DRAW!**



• If you are interested in volunteering or getting involved, please call 250-703-2410 or e-mail [ronna-rae.leonard.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:ronna-rae.leonard.mla@leg.bc.ca)



Ronna-Rae Leonard MLA Constituency Office

## DROP-IN HOURS

Monday to Thursday 10am - 4pm  
Fridays by appointment

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[ronna-rae.leonard.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:ronna-rae.leonard.mla@leg.bc.ca)

“ I am pleased to have a strong, compassionate, and skilled team to serve constituents and help deliver good government.” - *Ronna-Rae Leonard*



## Leanne Rathje

• Leanne Rathje lived on the lower mainland for 18 years before moving with her husband to the Comox Valley in 2006. Leanne has spent over 30 years in customer service and administration in legal, insurance, and financial services. Leanne lives in Courtenay with her husband and dog, Casey.



## Tasha Page

• Originally from Victoria, Tasha Page has lived in the Comox Valley since May 2014. Tasha is a registered social worker and holds a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Arts in Intercultural Communications. Tasha has worked in front line social services, primarily in the non-profit sector. She lives in Comox with her young family and dog, Hugh.

## QUICK REFERENCE NUMBERS

- City of Courtenay  
250-334-4441
- Town of Comox  
250-339-2202
- Comox Valley  
Regional District  
250-334-6000
- Gord Johns, MP,  
Courtenay-Alberni  
1-844-620-9924
- Rachel Blaney, MP,  
North Island-Powell River  
1-800-667-8404
- Residential Tenancy Branch  
1-800-665-8779
- Employment Standards  
Branch  
1-800-663-3316
- Medical Services Plan  
1-800-663-7100
- Representative for  
Children and Youth  
1-800-476-3933
- School District #71  
250-334-5500
- Island Health  
1-877-370-8699
- BC Ombudsperson  
1-800-465-6873
- BC Crisis Line  
1-800-784-2433

• Looking for a specific service or organization? Call BC 211 by dialing 2-1-1 for referrals to community, government, and social services in our community

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