

Newsletter August 28, 2020

Subject: Safely back to school – Fines for public safety violations - Newsletters over the last months

Dear Community Member,

With September just around the corner, I know parents and children are eager to find out what this school year will look like. During this unprecedented time, everyone's goal is for students to have the best possible learning experience while staying safe and healthy.

### Back to School Safely for everyone

Every school district in BC has now posted a detailed plan for a safe return to the classroom in September. You can view the plan for [SD71 – Comox Valley School District here](#). Parents can feel more confident about sending their children back to school with these plans in place. Because some families will continue to have medical or health concerns that will prevent their children from returning to school in-person, the Minister of Education has [directed all school districts](#) to make remote learning options available that will keep those students connected to their school community.

In the coming days, districts will be reaching out to families to confirm whether they are planning for their children to attend school in-person, or whether they will require additional options. District and school staff will also be able to provide parents with more detailed information and answer individual questions about the return to school. While schools may look different in different communities, each district's safety plan follows the same strict health and safety measures co-developed with the provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry. You can learn more about these measures and B.C.'s provincial back to school plan [here](#).

We had a very reassuring and informative conversation with our Medical Health Officer, Dr. Charmaine Enns, and the senior staff of SD71 which was hosted by SD71 DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council). Follow this link <https://www.facebook.com/RonnaRaeLeonard/>

### Province introduces new measures to enforce COVID-19 public safety

Though the vast majority of people are working hard to keep each other safe during the pandemic, a small minority of British Columbians are threatening to erode the progress our province has made in controlling COVID-19 by ignoring the public safety rules. Police and other provincial enforcement officers now have the ability to issue tickets to organizers of events as well as to attendees that do not comply with the provincial health officer's order on gatherings.

### Newsletters and Videos

There has been so much information and great new assistance programs that have come out in the last months – if you've missed things [check out our Newsletter archive](#). Since the start of the pandemic I've

been reaching out by video as well. If you've missed them on social media you can find them posted on [my website](#). You will find all kind of topics from Farmers markets to Pride – Miners memorial to MLA's message to grads.

If you have any questions or need any assistance with provincial supports, please reach out. My office is currently open via phone and email to support you. You can reach us by phone at; 250.703.2410 or email at: [Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

Sincerely,

Ronna-Rae Leonard

MLA Courtenay-Comox

**COVID Resources:**

- For medical info, visit [bccdc.ca](http://bccdc.ca) or call 811
- For provincial supports and BC's Restart Plan, visit [gov.bc.ca/covid19](http://gov.bc.ca/covid19) or call 1-888-COVID-19 (1-888-268-4319) or text 604-630-0300
- For employer guidelines on returning to work safely, visit [WorkSafeBC](http://WorkSafeBC)
- Take the self-assessment at [covid19.thrive.health](http://covid19.thrive.health)
- For seniors looking for additional support, or for those looking to support seniors, call 2-1-1 or visit [bc211.ca](http://bc211.ca)
- [Learn about eligibility for all covid-related programs provincial and federal benefits:](#)

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