

End of Session
Phase 2 Restart
ICBC Rebate
Diabetes Monitoring
Get Vaccinated
Indigenous People's input

This week marks the end of the legislature's spring session. It's been busy but all worth it in order to support people through the pandemic and help lay the foundation for a strong recovery. We are finally in a place where the return to normal is close within our grasp. Our government's primary goal over the last year has never wavered. We worked to protect British Columbians' health and livelihoods – with more direct supports per capita to people and to businesses than any other province. In this session, we have focused on ensuring the success of the largest vaccine rollout in our province's history and improved healthcare, supported small businesses, tackled climate change and supported clean tech, and worked passionately toward inclusions and representation. We are proud of what we have done in this pressure cooker year and look forward to returning in the fall to continue the good work.

All that we have done this year has led us to our goal: Reopening. On Tuesday, June 15, we entered Step 2 of [BC's Restart Plan](#)—one more step in bringing people back together. Thanks to our collective efforts and commitment to getting vaccinated against COVID-19, Step 2 means backyard BBQs, birthday parties, movie theatres, sports games, and many more chances to get back to doing what we love. Some examples of new things we can do in Step 2:

- Travel recreationally anywhere in B.C.
- Host outdoor gatherings of up to 50 people
- Hold indoor seated organized gatherings of up to 50 people
- Attend indoor faith gathering of up to 50 people, or 10% of a place of worship's total capacity, whichever is greater
- Go to a movie theatre or live theatre
- Watch outdoor sports (maximum of 50 spectators)
- Stay later at a restaurant or bar, with liquor service extended until midnight
- Go to indoor fitness classes (low-intensity or high-intensity) with reduced capacity

This reopening could not have been possible without the 75%+ people of BC doing small but important part for public health in getting their vaccine. Whether you were on of the first to jump in or were a little later, you have heeded the call of your neighbours to help get us back to normal. Your fellow students, residents, colleagues and family members have seen how in important this is and they have all stepped up. There are only a few people out there who have yet to see their part in the bigger picture. Let them know that you have received your vaccination already.

Here are more ways that our government is committed to people.

ICBC Rebate

Because our government took action to clean up the mess the BC Liberals left at ICBC, the corporation is now in a position to offer rebates due to the decrease in crashes and costs during the pandemic. ICBC customers are set to receive an average rebate of \$120, depending on the type of policy and how much they previously paid. We are delivering on our commitment to make sure ICBC savings go back into the pockets of British Columbians.

Diabetes support more accessible

Recently, we announced that thousands of people with diabetes will be able to access life-changing diabetes monitors, helping them stay on top of their care and make better treatment decisions. By expanding BC PharamCare coverage, opening new hospitals and Urgent Primary Care centres, and slashing wait times for diagnostic services, we are improving health care for all British Columbians.

Feedback from Indigenous Peoples

We have released a draft of our action plan to implement UNDRIP, developed in consultation with Indigenous people in BC and we are looking for additional feedback: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration
This survey is for Indigenous Peoples so please share it through your networks.

My constituency office is available by phone or email. Available hours are Monday to Thursday 10am-4pm, and Fridays by appointment only. You can reach us at 250.703.2410 or Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca if you have any questions or need assistance with provincial supports.

Sincerely,

Ronna-Rae Leonard
MLA Courtenay-Comox

COVID Resources:

- For medical info, visit bccdc.ca or call 811
- For provincial supports and BC's Restart Plan, visit 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](https://worksafebc.ca)
- Take the self-assessment at covid19.thrive.health
- For seniors looking for additional support, or for those looking to support seniors, call 2-1-1 or visit bc211.ca

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RonnaRaeLeonard/>

Instagram: @ronnaraeleonard

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYLQfuaKQV-itCluryo2hQg>

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Community Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 am to 4 pm

MY OFFICE REMAINS OPEN TO ASSIST BY PHONE OR EMAIL

www.ronnaraeleonard.ca



It is a privilege to live and work on the traditional lands of the K'omoks First Nations.

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Input from Indigenous Peoples to shape reconciliation

From the Day our NDP government was sworn in, we have made Indigenous rights and reconciliation a priority and we are proud to be the first province to pass legislation to implement the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We have released a draft of our action plan to implement UNDRIP, developed in consultation with Indigenous people in BC and we are looking for additional feedback: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration It is vital that the rights and priorities of Indigenous Peoples are centred in this work and in all our actions towards reconciliation.

Back to School Plan

- The #BCed Recovery Plan investment follows PHO guidance for a safe full-time K-12 return, with extra funds to support Indigenous students, mental health, ventilation & learning impact recovery. @FNESC @BCCPAC @BCSTA_News <https://news.gov.bc.ca/24712>

- Back to school, full-time in September and extra funds to support Indigenous students, mental health, ventilation and learning impact recovery. @FNESC @BCCPAC @BCSTA_News <https://news.gov.bc.ca/24712>
- BC schools can expect a safe September with extra funds for cleaning, First Nations and Métis students, mental health, learning impact recovery. @FNESC @BCCPAC @BCSTA_News <https://news.gov.bc.ca/24712>
- "B.C. is one of the few jurisdictions that has kept schools open all year despite the pandemic, thanks to the enormous collective efforts of everyone in the K-12 education system, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to them all," said Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Education. "We will continue to work with the experts in the provincial health office and our provincial K-12 education steering committee throughout the summer to finalize plans and guidelines to ensure students and staff are safe for the next school year."
- Throughout the 2020-21 school year, educators, staff and administrators have worked tirelessly to adapt to the challenges of the pandemic and support the health, well-being and learning of students, while parents and families have been flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of their children.
- As part of the return to school in September 2021, students can expect to learn in classrooms full time. Similar to any other school year, online learning programs will remain available for students.

UNDRIP action plan

- Please boost Minister Rankin's tweet about the draft action plan to implement UNDRIP: <https://twitter.com/MurrayRankinNDP/status/1403520337317298179>
- Or write your own tweet linking to: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration
- Some sample tweets:
 - Reconciliation has got to be at the center of all our work as government. That's why we've developed a draft action plan to implement UNDRIP in consultation with Indigenous peoples and First Nations and we welcome feedback: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration
 - BC was the first province to pass the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous peoples into law. Now we've got a draft action plan and are looking for additional feedback from First Nations and Indigenous peoples: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration
 - We all have a responsibility to advance reconciliation. Our government has a draft action plan to implement UNDRIP, check it out here: engage.gov.bc.ca/declaration

Dear Community Member,

On Tuesday, June 15, we entered Step 2 of [BC's Restart Plan](#)—one more step in bringing people back together. Thanks to our collective efforts and commitment to getting vaccinated against COVID-19, Step 2 means backyard BBQs, birthday parties, movie theatres, sports games, and many more chances to get back to doing what we love. Some examples of new things we can do in Step 2:

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I am so grateful for all the sacrifices British Columbians have made to get us where we are now. Today, more than 76% of adults are vaccinated with their first dose, and COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue to steadily decline. This summer, I'm so excited to reconnect with loved ones, safely enjoy everything our province has to offer, and to welcome better days ahead.

We've come so far in our fight against COVID-19. But as we look forward to brighter days, we must stick to public health protocols and remain vigilant in stopping the spread. Masks are still mandatory in indoor public spaces, physical distancing remains a requirement, and as always, stay home if you are sick and get tested. I encourage everyone to check in with their friends and loved ones aged 12+ to make sure everyone is registered to receive their vaccine at gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated.

As always, if you have questions or need any assistance with vaccination information, provincial COVID-19 supports, or any other provincial issue, please reach out. My office can be reached at [phone number] or [MLA email].

As we progress into Stage 2 of our BC Restart program, the more than 2,000 temporary patios authorized to serve liquor during the COVID-19 pandemic can apply to become permanent under amended provincial liquor regulations. This includes prospective patios that are supported by local governments and meet local bylaws.

Temporary expanded service areas (TESAs) have allowed thousands of restaurants and pubs to serve more patrons while complying with health orders, particularly those related to physical distancing and indoor dining.

To ensure existing and prospective TESAs can operate without interruption as they transition toward becoming a permanent part of B.C.'s hospitality landscape, the Province is:

- extending the authorization of existing TESAs for an additional seven months, through to June 1, 2022; and
- continuing to accept applications for new TESAs up to Oct. 31, 2021.

The changes will give businesses time to apply to make their current TESA authorizations permanent and prevent the risk of disrupting TESA use during the application process. As well, the changes provide local governments and Indigenous Nations more time to review eligible applications for permanent structural changes before TESA authorizations expire and to consider the implications of permanent approval for their communities.

Please find the following attachments:

- News Release- Permanent Patios
- QA- TESAs Permanent Patios