

Dear Community Member,

As we gear up to celebrate spring, Easter, Ramadan, and Passover, we see how nature embodies themes of hope and renewal. This is certainly a time of transition and that can be both exciting and challenging. As the mandatory vaccine card for indoor venues lifted on April 8th, it's important to remember that we always have choices. I've found this op-ed from Dr. Henry which offers good information that can help contextualize this time: <https://vancouversun.com/opinion/op-ed/dr-bonnie-henry-as-we-venture-out-into-the-world-again-lets-do-so-steadily-but-cautiously>

For highlights on some of government initiatives from this last week, scroll through to find the issues that matter to you.

Welcoming Ukraine

The province will be accepting many Ukrainians fleeing violence over the next while. There is a new webpage up to connect those who need help with those who wish to provide help (accommodation, donation). This resource can act as a one stop shop for Canadians who wish to help and Ukrainians coming to BC: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/tourism-immigration/ukraine/welcome>

A phone line was also established specifically for Ukrainians who have arrived in BC. Ukrainians can be served in Ukrainian, Russian and 140 other languages: 1 800 663-7867.

Livability / Services

[B.C. welcomes more than 100,000 people, the most in 60 years](#)

[Single-step certification will protect right to join a union](#)

[Whistleblower act expands to more public-sector organizations](#)

[Province to increase housing, services near transit hubs](#)

[New tools address elected officials charged with criminal offences](#)

[More early childhood educators receive increased wages](#)

[Thousands of B.C. families benefit from expansion of \\$10 a Day ChildCareBC](#)

Local: 43 childcare spaces at Today N' Tomorrow

<https://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/two-courtenay-childcare-sites-to-offer-reduced-fees/>

[Province keeps eyes on the road with new Vision Zero funding](#)

Local: Speed board sign on Macaulay Rd

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Vision_Zero_Backgrounder.pdf

[Hospitality sector gets new boost through temporary patio extension](#)

[Expanded services support families in B.C.](#)

[The Province is removing almost 750 additional instances of gendered language across 6 ministries](#)

[New actions strengthen diversity, equity in arts funding](#)

Environment

[B.C., First Nations move forward with unprecedented old growth deferrals](#)

[Mass Timber Action Plan launched, four new projects announced](#)

[Investing in more B.C. vets to help families, farmers](#)

[More recovery support coming for B.C.'s art, culture sector](#)

[B.C. leading North America in zero-emission vehicle update](#)

[New mining reclamation policy expands environmental protection](#)

[Province extends pandemic relief funding to strengthen public transit services](#)

Health

[More HOPE on the way for ALS patients](#)

[B.C. seeks public input on cannabis consumption spaces](#)

[BC takes next step in COVID-19 Response](#)

Is someone in your life, your workplace, or church celebrating a Milestone birthday or anniversary? Make sure to put in a request for a letter from your MLA. Requests are made online here: <https://www.protocolapplications.gov.bc.ca/CMSForm>

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about any provincial issue, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to help you. Our office is staffed from 10am-4pm Monday -Thursday. If you come by simply knock or call 250.703.2410 to grab our attention. If you require an appointment, please email: Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Ronna-Rae Leonard

If you wish to be unsubscribed to this newsletter – simply respond “UNSUBSCRIBE” to this email.