

On Thursday, we observed our first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. I joined Courtenay-Comox BCNDP activists, friends new and old, acquaintances and community leaders, in a constant sea of orange tshirts flowing along the streets, to recognize and honour this day.

Thanks to the Indigenous Women's Sharing Society and MIKI'SIW Métis Association for organizing this event



Recognition of the ongoing trauma of residential schools is a vital part of the reconciliation process, but we also need to take action. Our government is working with Indigenous People on an action plan to guide our implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. You can learn more about that work [here](#).

I want to share with you a few updates about what our government has accomplished this week for people in B.C.

Making the switch to clean electricity

The climate crisis demands urgent action. Our province has the clean electricity resources to power a sustainable future. This week we announced our [5-year plan](#) to make it easier and more affordable for people to use made-in-B.C. clean power in place of fossil fuels.

This plan will help us avoid an additional 930,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions by the end of 2025. That is equivalent to taking 200,000 cars off the road.

As more and more daily activities like driving, heating our homes, and producing industrial goods switch from fossil fuels to clean electricity, we will reduce carbon emissions and make our province less polluting and more efficient.

Helping more people to get good tech jobs

We are partnering with B.C.'s growing tech sector to [help more people get tech jobs](#), including people who are under-represented in the industry such as women and gender-diverse people, LGBTQ2S+ people, Black, Indigenous and people of colour, people with disabilities or neurodiversity, and more.

B.C. companies can apply for a grant of up to \$10,000 to hire for new tech roles. The program is open to everyone, but priority will be given to people from under-represented groups, who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

Capping fees for restaurants

With more people ordering delivery and takeout during the pandemic, restaurants have depended more on delivery services and apps to get their food into the hands of customers, safely.

Last December, we responded to the calls of the restaurant industry and put a cap on the fees that these delivery services can charge to restaurants. This cap provided much-needed relief for restaurants trying to stay afloat and put more money back into the pockets of people working in the restaurant industry.

This week, we [extended this cap](#) until the end of 2021, so we can continue helping restaurants and the more than 180,000 people they employ in B.C.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19 or any other provincial issue, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to help you, Monday – Thursday 10am-4pm (closed Fridays).

Sincerely,

Ronna-Rae Leonard

MLA Courtenay-Comox

COVID Resources:

- For medical info, visit bccdc.ca or call 811
- 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: @ronna-raeleonard

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

Website: <http://ronna-raeleonard.ca/>

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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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