

Newsletter October 29, 2021

Roadmap to Clean BC 2030

Education First Nations <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021EDUC0082-002029>

FOIPPA

PJH

Flu Vaccinations

Dear Community Member,

As the final touches for Halloween costumes happen this week, I wish you all a very exciting, scary and safe Halloween. As always I'm sharing some news for you about what has been happening in the Legislature and how this government is working to improve life for everyone.

CleanBC

CleanBC is the BC government's climate plan to meet the challenge of reducing climate pollution and build a stronger future for all British Columbians. This week our government introduced a road map to help prepare for the kind of unprecedented extreme weather and emergency events like we saw this summer in BC. We know that climate change is expected to make these types of extreme events more frequent and that we need strong, co-ordinated global action to reduce emissions and build a cleaner economy for everyone. The roadmap provides the public with a clear and credible path to reaching our emissions targets, and establishes an all of government approach to tackling climate change. The CleanBC Roadmap is accelerating and expanding climate action to meet the urgency of the climate crisis and build a cleaner, stronger economy for everyone. The roadmap includes targeted actions across eight pathways, including low-carbon energy, transportation, industry, buildings and more. Some of these actions include:

- a stronger price on carbon pollution to meet or exceed the federal benchmark, with supports for people and businesses;
- reducing methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 75% by 2030 (from 2014 levels), and nearly eliminating methane emissions from oil and gas, mining, forestry and industrial wood waste by 2035;
- a nation-leading adoption of zero-emission vehicles (90% of new light-duty sales by 2030) and 100% ZEVs by 2035;
- completing B.C.'s Electric Highway by 2024 with a target of having 10,000 public EV charging stations by 2030;
- new requirements to ensure all new buildings emit zero-carbon by 2030 and the highest energy efficiency standards for new space and water heating equipment;

- accelerated mode shifts towards active transportation and public transit (increase share of trips to 30% by 2030; 40% by 2040; 50% by 2050);

Update on Plastics:

Changes under new legislation mean the Province will be able to identify and take direct action to phase out single-use plastic products and packaging. Decisions will be made based on the environmental and economic impacts of any bans, with the first phase of new regulations expected in early 2023.

First Nation Education Act

Education plays a key role in reconciliation and in creating a future of equity and justice for all. First Nations in BC will soon be able to certify and regulate teachers who work in schools under their jurisdiction. First Nations have been working for over 20 year to advance jurisdiction over education and this ground breaking initiative is a great step towards this. The legislative changes brought forward have been co-developed with the First Nations Education Steering Committee, acting under the direction of the First Nations engaged in the initiative. You can learn more about it here:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/42nd-parliament/2nd-session/bills/first-reading> . This will help students, ensure they are confident in their self-identity, their families, their communities and traditional values, languages and cultures; give them the skills they need to thrive in contemporary society; and prepare them to access any opportunities they choose for higher learning and employment.

FOIPPA – Increasing security while reducing information bottlenecks

Our FOIPPA legislation is outdated, last updated a decade ago, and is not working for people. Like many things, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted a better way to keep the information of British Columbians safe. With input from thousands of people, businesses, Indigenous communities and public bodies, proposed changes to FOIPPA will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for thousands of people who request information each year. Highlights include:

- updating FOIPPA’s data-residency provisions so public bodies can use modern tools while continuing to protect personal information;
- enhancing public-sector privacy protections and increasing accountability by implementing mandatory privacy breach reporting, increasing penalties, and adding new offences;
- introducing a modest application fee for non-personal FOI requests;
- demonstrating the Province’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and removing non-inclusive language.

Premier John Horgan

As we heard this week John Horgan has gone in for surgery on his throat. Thank-you to those who have sent well wishes. Mike Farnworth is in stepping in in the interim.

Flu Shoots

Just a reminder that by getting a flu shoot this season you are also helping quell all respiratory illness that happens more often in the winter months. These are available at no cost this year at local. Most pharmacies require appointment.

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/>

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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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