

Subject: Recovery survey – FOUNDRY CV – National Indigenous Peoples Day – Virtual Canada Day Parade

Dear Community Member,

As we look towards our recovery from the pandemic, there is still a lot about the future that is unknown. But one thing is for sure – we won't simply be going back to the way things were. We have an opportunity to build our province back even better than before, and to make it a better place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

We want to hear from you about recovery in BC

And that is where you come in. The provincial government is asking for your input into our recovery plan. What would you like to see prioritized? What would make it easier for you to go back to work or grow your business? Do you think we are on the right track? I encourage everyone to go to engage.gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas and take the survey to share your ideas. And stay tuned for virtual townhalls that will give you a chance to learn more and give your input in the coming weeks.

New FOUNDRY in the Comox Valley

Locally, we so happy to announce that the Comox Valley is one of 8 locations in BC to be receiving a Foundry. This important centre will be a one-stop, wraparound service for young people which will include, mental health, substance use, primary care, youth and family peer supports, and social services such as employment services. We are very excited to see this need in our community being addressed.

National Indigenous Peoples Day

This week we are also celebrating the 24th National Indigenous People's Day, on Sunday, June 21st. Join me this Sunday in celebrating the rich, diverse, and unique heritage of Indigenous, First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, while acknowledging the historic colonial injustices and ongoing discrimination that continue to affect the lives of Indigenous peoples. It is also a time to renew our commitment to advance reconciliation in the province. Online events are being held across the nation – you can learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/y73mhzn6>

Happy Father's Day and Preparation for Canada Day

Here's an idea for a Father's Day Weekend Activity – why not create your submission for my Canada Day Virtual Parade? Instead of participating with floats, I invite you to create a Canada Day themed painting, drawing, poem, story, song, window display, or even decorate your house for a Virtual Canada Day Parade. Take a photo of your creation and email along with your contact info to ronna-rae.leonard.mla@leg.bc.ca to enter a draw to win one of three 6'x3' (physical distancing!) Canada flags. The deadline for submissions is midnight Sunday June 28th. The 3 winners of the draw will be announced on Monday June 29th, so you can wave your Canada flag on July 1st. We will feature your creations in a Virtual Parade – on my Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter. By submitting your artistic works, you are giving permission to share your artwork.

Miners Memorial Cumberland

You may also be interested in catching up with the [Miner's Memorial events](#) this weekend in Cumberland including a virtual concert – Songs of the Workers.

Legislature in session

Next week the legislature will resume for a summer session. We'll be following physical distancing measures with a combination of in-person and virtual debates and votes. You can follow my [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts for regular updates as our government continues working to build a better province for the people of B.C.

Be calm, be kind and be safe

It is important to remember that even though we are looking to the future, we are still very much in a pandemic. Though transmission rates may be declining in B.C., the virus is still present in our province and our communities, and we still need to be cautious and thoughtful about our daily activities.

The advice from Dr. Bonnie Henry is still to maintain physical distancing from everyone who is not part of your bubble. Anytime you can't maintain that 2m (6ft) space – such as when taking public transit or grocery shopping – you should consider wearing a non-medical mask or cloth face covering. We should all be washing our hands often, for at least 20 seconds, and staying home anytime we feel sick. Remember, you can find the most up-to-date medical advice about COVID-19 on the [BCCDC website](#).

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
- 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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