

Dear Community Member,

The last few days have seen an uptick in new cases of COVID-19. This is not a reason to panic, but it is a good reminder that our work to flatten the curve is not done. While we enjoy summer and return to some of our favourite activities, we need to heed the advice of Dr. Bonnie Henry.

- Keep groups and gatherings small, and avoid crowded indoor spaces
- Maintain 2m (6ft) distance between yourself and those outside your bubble
- Wash your hands frequently
- Wear a mask when you can't maintain physical distance – such as in stores or on transit
- Stay home and self-isolate whenever you feel sick – even if your symptoms are mild

Remember that the more people you socialize with, the higher your risk of being exposed to and spreading COVID-19. Be responsible and socialize safely.

As we near the end of the summer legislative session, your BC New Democrat government has made a lot of progress on planning our economic recovery. We are working to build our economy, and our province, back even better than it was before, so that everyone will have a good job and a more secure future. But that recovery can only keep moving forward if we all continue to be safe and follow Dr. Henry's advice.

Yesterday we announced more [support for local governments and transit systems](#), with up to one billion dollars available from the Province to match a contribution by the federal government. This funding will ensure people can access the important services they need throughout our restart and recovery.

This past week, we announced even more [new child care spaces](#) across the province, bringing the total number of spaces our government has created to 16,800. These spaces will be vital as parents return to work or school.

We also announced new funding for [search and rescue groups](#), recognizing the important role they play in keeping British Columbians safe.

Coming up soon we will be **celebrating BC Day!** There are so many reasons to be positive. Well here's your chance to share your love of BC with the rest of our community and BC. At Comox Marina Park on Monday, July 27, 11:15am-12:30pm and on 5th street at my office (437 5th street) on Tuesday, July 28, 8:30am-9:30am – we will be collecting your personal reasons why you love BC. We will display them in our office window and make a video collage of you and your messages to share on social media on BC day! COVID-19 safety precautions will be in place. If you're in the neighbourhood, please stop by and join in making BC Day a day to remember.

We have accomplished a lot together, and there is still so much more to do. As always, you can find more information about our government's COVID-19 response and Restart Plan at gov.bc.ca/COVID19. If you have any questions or need any assistance with provincial supports, please reach out. My office is currently open via phone and email to support you. You can reach us by phone at; 250.703.2410 or email at: Ronna-Rae.Leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca

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://www.worksafebc.com)
- 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
- [Learn about eligibility for all covid-related programs provincial and federal benefits:](#)

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

Instagram: @ronnaraeleonard

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

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