

CLR-INFO

[CLR Members,](#)

Please find the latest updates on the current situation in the province.

Provincial News

[B.C.'s COVID-19 immunization plan continues with fall boosters](#)



People in B.C. can look ahead to their next COVID-19 vaccine dose with the Province announcing a fall booster program as the next step in its COVID-19 immunization plan.

The most recent recommendation from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) is that people at increased risk of severe illness and those 65 years and older should receive a booster in the fall. For all other individuals between 12 and 64, NACI and the Province also encourage a fall booster. NACI also recommends that all fall booster shots should be done six months or more after the last one.

Learn More:

For the July 8, 2022, presentation, visit: https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/COVID19_Immunization_Plan_Fall_July8_2022.pdf

For information about booster shots, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/booster>

[Minister's statement on June's Labour Force Survey results](#)



Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, has issued the statement on the release of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey for June 2022.

Learn More: [Statement](#)

[Stronger BC For Everyone: B.C.'s Economic Recovery Plan](#)

[Building owners will reduce energy, save money with 5% tax credit](#)

A new tax credit will make energy retrofits for multi-unit residential and commercial buildings more affordable, saving owners 5% on retrofits to help reduce their energy use.

The Clean Building Tax Credit supports the CleanBC commitment to reduce provincewide emissions by 40% from 2007 levels and aligns with B.C.'s target to reduce emissions in buildings and communities by more than half by 2030.

Learn More:

Find out how building owners can get the Clean Buildings Tax

Credit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/corporate/credits/clean-buildings>

Federal News

[Government of Canada is re-establishing mandatory random testing offsite of airports for air travellers](#)



The Government of Canada had paused mandatory random testing for those entering Canada by air on June 11, 2022, as part of a broader strategy to transition testing for air travellers outside of the airports.

Mandatory random testing will resume as of July 19, 2022, for travellers who qualify as fully vaccinated, arriving in Canada by air to the four major Canadian airports, Vancouver, Calgary, Montreal

and Toronto.

All testing for air travellers, for both those who qualify as fully vaccinated and partially or unvaccinated people, will be completed outside of airports, either via an in-person appointment at select testing provider locations and pharmacies, or a virtual appointment for a self-swab test. Travellers who do not qualify as fully vaccinated, unless exempt, must continue to test on Day 1 and Day 8 of their mandatory 14-day quarantine.

Mandatory random testing continues at land border points of entry, with no changes.

Associated links

[COVID-19: Travel, testing and borders](#)

[COVID-19: Vaccinated travellers entering Canada](#)

[Health Canada authorizes the use of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in children 6 months to 5 years of age](#)



July 14, Health Canada authorized the use of the Moderna Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine in children 6 months to 5 years of age. This is the first COVID-19 vaccine authorized in Canada for use in this age group. As a result of this authorization, approximately 1.7 million children are now eligible for a vaccination against COVID-19.

The clinical trial showed that the immune response to Spikevax in children 6 months to 5 years of age was comparable to that seen in people 18 to 25 years of age in a previous study. Efficacy was assessed when Omicron was the predominant variant of COVID-19 circulating in the U.S. and Canada. The vaccine was well tolerated and no safety signals were identified from the trial.

[Government of Canada makes significant additional transfers to provinces and territories in support of health care and transit](#)

July 14, Chrystia Freeland, federal Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, confirmed that the provinces and territories have now received an additional \$2.85 billion in funding for health care, public transit, and safer air in schools.

Today's transfers were made possible by the passage of Bill C-19, *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on April 7, 2022 and other measures*, which received Royal Assent on June 23, 2022.

Associated links

[Government of Canada releases Budget 2022](#)

[Federal government announces an investment in public transit systems across Canada](#)

[Canada commits \\$2 billion in additional health care funding to clear backlogs and support hundreds of thousands of additional surgeries](#)

Health & Safety

[Update on proposed improvements to the Certificate of Recognition program](#)

WorkSafeBC is proceeding with the next step in its gradual, phased implementation of proposed improvements to the Certificate of Recognition (COR) program after extensive consultation, research, development, and testing of a new health and safety management audit standard.

The improvements centre on developing a single, scalable health and safety management audit standard that is aligned with current risk-based standards for Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems ("OHSMS"), with a focus on ensuring all elements of the system work together effectively and emphasizing the role of worker participation and leadership commitment. The existing audit standard has been in place since 2011.

To test the proposed improvements, WorkSafeBC started a [proof of concept](#) project in January 2021. Program auditors were selected to participate by Certifying Partners, trained on the proposed health and safety management audit standard, and asked to provide feedback until January 2022. An analysis of the proof of concept found that it was generally well received by participants and helped to confirm WorkSafeBC's thinking for the future direction of the program.

As a next step, WorkSafeBC will be making minor revisions to the new health and safety management audit standard and refining our implementation plan based on the results of the proof of concept and feedback from stakeholders. WorkSafeBC will be taking a multi-year, phased approach to implementing the improvements to ensure a smooth transition and to allow for additional opportunities for stakeholder engagement.

For further updates visit worksafebc.com.

[Government of Canada announces four appointments and one reappointment to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety](#)

On July 4th, the federal Minister of Labour, Seamus O'Regan Jr., announced four appointments and a reappointment to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) Council of Governors.

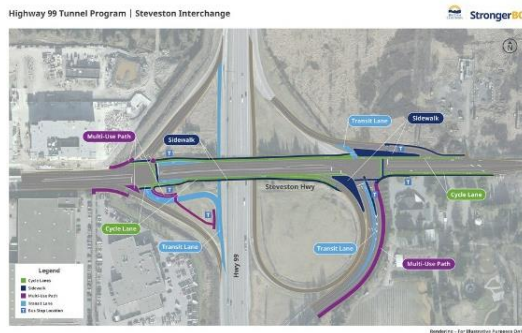
Associated links

[Labour Program](#)

[Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety](#)

Transportation & Infrastructure

[Five-lane interchange breaks ground in Richmond](#)



The ground was officially broken Thursday, July 7, 2022, on the new five-lane Steveston interchange in Richmond as part of the project that will see the George Massey Tunnel replaced with a new toll-free crossing.

The new interchange will improve public transit, shorten travel times for drivers, and improve active transportation connections.

Learn More: For more information about the Highway 99 tunnel project, [visit](#).

[Kelowna International Airport will use mass timber in terminal expansion](#)



The Kelowna International Airport (YLW) Terminal Building Expansion project is anticipated to commence in 2023 and will receive funding through the program, which has supported the advancement of mass timber in several projects throughout B.C.

The airport will receive \$500,000 from the Province to help with costs associated with the use of mass timber, as well as the creation of a digital construction twin, advanced fire modelling and life-cycle assessment of building materials. The use of prefabricated mass-timber panels will reduce construction time and will result in less construction traffic to the site. Canada's 10th largest airport will remain open and fully operational throughout the nearly 8,000-square-metre expansion.

Learn More:

To learn more about the Mass Timber Demonstration Program and apply to the program, visit: <https://www.masstimberbc.ca/>

To read the Mass Timber Action Plan, visit: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/business/construction-industry/bc_masstimber_action_plan_2022.pdf



Stay safe,

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