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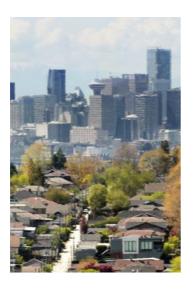
Industry News



Digital Building Permit Hub Launched to Accelerate Homebuilding in B.C.

To expedite home construction and reduce costs, B.C. has launched a new digital Building Permit Hub, streamlining the permitting process and standardizing requirements across jurisdictions. This initiative aims to make it easier for homeowners and builders to submit applications, ultimately speeding up construction and addressing housing market challenges.

Read more



New Vancouver GHG Emissions Reporting Requirements Begin June 1

Starting June 1, Vancouver's largest commercial buildings over 100,000 square feet must report their greenhouse gas emissions to the city, with smaller buildings and multi-family residential buildings following in 2025 and 2026. The city aims to reduce building emissions by 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050, with mandatory actions and emissions caps set to begin in 2026.

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Provincial News



Continued Access to COVID-19 Medication with 100% Coverage

To ensure high-risk adults have access to COVID-19 treatment, the province now provides full coverage for the antiviral medication Paxlovid through BC PharmaCare's Plan Z. This change, effective May 28, 2024, follows the federal government's cessation of coverage, ensuring ongoing access to essential medication for eligible residents.

Read more

Labour and Economy



B.C. Minimum Wage to Increase on June 1, 2024

Starting June 1, 2024, the general minimum wage in B.C. will rise from \$16.75 to \$17.40 per hour, benefiting approximately 240,000 workers. The 3.9% increase also applies to resident caretakers, live-in home-support workers, and live-in camp leaders, with future increases tied to inflation.

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Hydrogen Project to Create Jobs and Fuel B.C.'s Clean Economy

The H2 Gateway project by HTEC, supported by a \$337 million investment from the Canada Infrastructure Bank and \$133 million from B.C.'s Low Carbon Fuel Standard, aims to build a network of hydrogen refuelling stations and production facilities, creating over 280 jobs. This initiative is expected to significantly reduce transportation emissions and position British Columbia as a leader in clean energy innovation.

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Infrastructure and Transportation



Pattullo Bridge and Broadway Subway Projects Reach Key Milestones Despite Delays

The Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project has completed its main tower construction, and the Broadway Subway Project has finished tunnel boring operations, marking significant progress for both. Despite challenges, these milestones bring the projects closer to providing faster, safer, and more efficient travel in the Lower Mainland. The Pattullo Bridge Replacement project is now set to open in fall 2025, and the Broadway Subway Project will be operational by fall 2027.

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Diversity & Inclusion



Helpline Launched for Racist Incidents

B.C. has launched the Racist Incident Helpline, offering culturally appropriate support in over 240 languages for those experiencing or witnessing racism. The helpline provides referrals to community support services and collects data to inform antiracism initiatives.

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Affordable Homes for shishalh Nation Members Open in Sechelt, B.C.

Members of the shishalh Nation can now move into 34 new affordable homes in Sechelt, B.C., as part of the "Our House of Clans" project, a partnership between BC Housing, CMHC, and the shishalh Nation. The building includes various amenities and stands on sacred land, featuring a Reconciliation Plaza with a totem carved by the late shishalh master carver Tony Paul.

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Support and Funding



For a list of current funding resources and supports for employers and apprentices visit the CLR website.

Explore Resources









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