

CLR-INFO

[CLR Members,](#)

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

Weather Alert

[Severe thunderstorm watches in place for B.C. Interior as fire risk stays high](#)



Much of B.C.'s Interior is being warned about the risk of severe thunderstorms today, as an unsettled weather system moves north from the United States and amplifies fire risk.

Environment Canada has issued severe thunderstorm watches for much of the region, from the Prince George area down to the Similkameen, Okanagan and the Kootenays.

The weather agency said "conditions are favourable for the development of severe thunderstorms that may be capable of producing strong wind gusts, large hail and heavy rain."

Provincial News

[Canada and British Columbia invest \\$29.5 million in 11 projects to make B.C. communities more resilient to natural disasters](#)

August 5, Dominic LeBlanc, the federal Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, and Mike Farnworth, British Columbia's Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, announced more than \$29.5 million in joint funding to reduce and mitigate the risk of floods and slide events in 11 communities across B.C. These projects are in addition to 18 other disaster mitigation-related projects that were announced last summer.

The Government of Canada is investing more than \$24.6 million in these 11 projects. The Government of British Columbia is contributing \$4.8 million.

Minister's statement on July'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 July 2022:

“B.C.’s strong economic recovery and low unemployment rate continue to help lead Canada’s economic outlook.

“The province added 14,900 full-time jobs last month, while our unemployment rate remained historically low at 4.7%.

“In July, B.C. had the most people joining the workforce among major provinces. This also shows in the first quarter (Q1) update for 2022, where the net migration for B.C. was 23,889 – the highest Q1 in more than 60 years.

Learn More:

Stronger BC For Everyone: B.C.’s Economic Plan: <https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/>

B.C.’s highest honour recognizes 14 British Columbians



Fourteen exceptional people will be appointed to the Order of British Columbia, the Province’s highest form of recognition.

This year, 194 British Columbians were nominated. Since its inception in 1989, 489 British Columbians have been appointed to the Order of B.C. Members have been appointed from all parts of the province and in numbers proportionate to a region’s population.

The Province’s other honour, the Medal of Good Citizenship, recognizes people who have gone above and beyond without expectation of reward in service to their communities. Nominations for the Medal of Good Citizenship must be received by Sept. 6, 2022, to be considered for this year.

Learn More:

The Order of British Columbia: <http://www.orderofbc.gov.bc.ca>

For information about the Medal of Good Citizenship, including how to submit a nomination, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/medalofgoodcitizenship

Monkeypox cases, vaccination update

The Province is making monkeypox vaccines available to people in British Columbia.

Although the number of cases in B.C. remains low, some community transmission has been identified. As of July 27, there were 61 cases of monkeypox in the province.

As part of established communicable disease management practice, local public health authorities are following up via contact tracing with people who have been exposed.

Health Canada maintains a limited stockpile of smallpox vaccine, which is also effective against monkeypox (Imvamune), that is made available through the BC Centre for Disease Control. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has published recommendations for the use of Imvamune.

For more information about who is eligible to get a vaccine and how to book an appointment, refer to the local health authority or visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/monkeypox>

For updates about monkeypox in B.C., visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/monkeypox>

Number of COVID-19 patients in B.C. hospitals dips below 400

The 398 patients in hospital as of Thursday is the lowest total the B.C. Centre for Disease Control has recorded since July 7, but it's also only a slight change from what the hospital population has been for the last four weeks.

The number of coronavirus patients in critical care dropped more significantly this week, falling from 38 last Thursday to 22 this week, the lowest that number has been since June 16.

Industry News

Canada announces \$33 million for STAR program

The Government of Canada has announced more than \$33 million over five years for the **Skilled Trades Awareness and Readiness (STAR) program**.

The STAR program encourages Canadians—particularly those facing barriers, such as women, Indigenous people, visible minorities, newcomers, persons with disabilities and youth—to explore and prepare for careers in the skilled trades.

As part of the funding, \$2.8 million will go to Selections Career Support Services for their project, Get Ready in Trades (GRiT). This project will support youth with disabilities to overcome barriers to relevant training and meaningful employment within the skilled trades.

To further support hiring of new apprentices, the federal government recently announced close to \$247 million for 13 projects under the Apprenticeship Service that will help small and medium-sized enterprises hire more than 25,000 first-year Red Seal apprentices and provide them with hands-on experience and training they need to become certified journeypersons.

Transportation

Highway 1 closed due to a mudslide near Lytton, B.C.

A part of Highway 1 in B.C.'s Fraser Canyon is shut down due to a mudslide.

The mudslide has closed the highway between Lytton and Spences Bridge in both directions between Highway 8 and Highway 12.

DriveBC said no detour is available right now, but a slope assessment will be conducted on Thursday. Initially, DriveBC reported flooding near Ashcroft, Spence's Bridge and Lytton around 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Shortly after, around 9:30 p.m., DriveBC reported the mudslide.



Stay safe,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO



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