

## CLR-INFO

### Provincial & Federal News

#### B.C. will formally recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be established in B.C. law to honour the strength and resilience of residential school survivors and remember the children who never came home.

This new provincial statutory day of commemoration responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action No. 80, which called on the federal government to establish a holiday to honour survivors, their families and communities. If passed, British Columbia will join Canada, Prince Edward Island, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and the Yukon as jurisdictions that have designated Sept. 30 as a statutory holiday.

#### **Learn More:**

For more information about the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/indigenous-people/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation>

Read the federal government's initiative here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>

Learn more about obligations for employers: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards/statutory-holidays/qualify-for-statutory-holiday-pay>

#### B.C. building stronger communities with \$1 billion Growing Communities Fund



One billion dollars in new grants will be going to local governments in B.C. to help build community infrastructure and amenities to meet the demands of unprecedented population growth.

The Growing Communities Fund will provide a one-time total of \$1 billion in grants to all 188 of B.C.'s municipalities and regional districts, which they can use to address their community's unique infrastructure and amenities demands – such as recreation

facilities, parks and water-treatment plants, as well as other community infrastructure. It will help communities prepare for future growth and build the amenities needed to support new home construction.

## Labour and Economy

### B.C. forecasts one million job openings



B.C.'s latest Labour Market Outlook forecasts more than one million job openings in the next decade.

Employment in B.C. is expected to reach 3.1 million by 2032, up from 2.7 million jobs in 2022. Employment will grow an average of 1.3% per year for the forecast period. Key growth areas will be in the technology and healthcare sectors.

More than one million job openings are expected between 2022 and 2032. Of these, 37% are due to a growing economy while 63% of the openings will be the result of retiring workers.

Over the next decade, more than 83,000 job openings are expected in the skilled trades. The construction trades occupations with the highest projected job openings include construction trades helpers and labourers; carpenters; heavy equipment operators (except crane); electricians (except industrial and power system); welders and related machine operators; and plumbers.

## Labour Relations

### Arbitration rules against B.C. workers for OT pay on Queen Elizabeth's funeral

As we communicated earlier, Arbitrator Noonan decided that the National Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II was not a holiday under five private sector collective agreements in British Columbia.

"The parties have clearly agreed to be bound by what either the federal or provincial government declares to be holidays. I find that neither level of government chose to declare a holiday that relates to private sector employees for September 19", reads Rendall Noonan's arbitration decision.

Following the release of the decision, an appeal was filed by the affected unions. The hearing process for that appeal has not yet been decided by the Labour Relations Board. We will keep our members informed of the results of that appeal.

# Transportation & Infrastructure

## [B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure outlines more than \\$12 billion of 2023 priorities](#)



British Columbia's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's 2023 priorities include more than \$12 billion worth of projects already underway and the continued rebuilding of the province after several years of environmental challenges. The major infrastructure projects include Rebuilding B.C.'s highways, Pattullo Bridge replacement, Surrey Langley Skytrain, Broadway Subway extension, Improvements to Highway 1, George Massey Tunnel replacement, Steveston Interchange.

## [Vancouver approves \\$656M waters plan](#)



The City of Vancouver has approved the \$656 million Healthy Waters Plan, a 70 per cent investment increase in sewage and draining systems over the next four years.

The Healthy Waters Plan will be vital in cost-effectively addressing pollution from combined sewer overflows and rainwater runoff, renewing aging infrastructure, enabling housing and growth, and responding to climate change through investments that include nature-based solutions like green rainwater infrastructure.

## [Woodworth Dam replacement complete in Prince Rupert](#)

The Woodworth Dam has now been fully replaced allowing the City of Prince Rupert to start using its primary water source again, a news release states.

The work was completed with \$4.2 million from the federal government and \$2.83 million from the Government of British Columbia. Prince Rupert covered the remaining costs.

"The city is still in the engineering phase of the next phase of our water infrastructure replacement efforts – a water treatment facility – and is currently exploring our options for operating models," reads the release.

## [New Vancouver soccer stadium to be built in less than three months](#)



Modular builds are changing the definition of a construction timeline.

The new Vancouver FC Stadium in the Township of Langley has recently begun construction and is scheduled to be complete before the team's first game on May 7.

The exceptionally fast timeline is thanks to the building's modular construction design, states a news release.

Shipping containers holding the flat pack stadium arrived on Feb. 8 at the Port of Vancouver. Work has already begun laying the concrete foundations and services that will support the prefabricated structure.

The modular design also allows for the stadium to “grow with the club and its surrounding community and is able to expand in capacity and amenities to serve its supporters now and in the future,” reads the release.

## Industry News

### [\\$5.2M funding boosts B.C. clean technology](#)



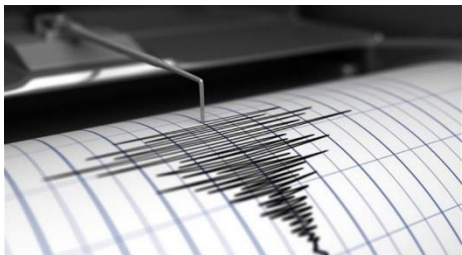
The Government of Canada has announced \$5.2 million to boost the B.C. clean technology sector.

The federal funding through PacifiCan, together with \$2.3 million from the Province of B.C. will support Foresight Canada to establish the BC Net Zero Innovation Network (BCNZIN).

The network will bring together innovators, businesses and stakeholders to accelerate the development of competitive cleantech solutions, and move them to market. Foresight will initially focus on solutions for B.C.’s forestry, mining and water sectors.

Not only will this network accelerate the development and adoption of clean technologies, but it will also open up new markets and attract world-class talent to the province. This project is expected to spur growth in B.C.’s cleantech sector, creating 240 new jobs and attracting \$280 million in investment. In addition to strong economic benefits, the project has a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 125 kilotonnes.

### [B.C. to install earthquake warning sensors](#)



British Columbia is installing up to 50 earthquake early warning sensors in high seismic risk areas. These sensors will connect to the national Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) system, supplementing and complementing several hundred sensors already installed by Natural Resources Canada.

The system will give seconds to tens of seconds of warning before the strongest shaking arrives at coastal communities in British Columbia and will assist in the protection of critical transportation infrastructure in British Columbia.

When the full system is operational in 2024, more than 10 million people in Canada living in the most earthquake-prone regions of the country will receive Earthquake Early Warning alerts, providing a few precious seconds to take action.



Stay safe,  
Ken McCormack | President & CEO