

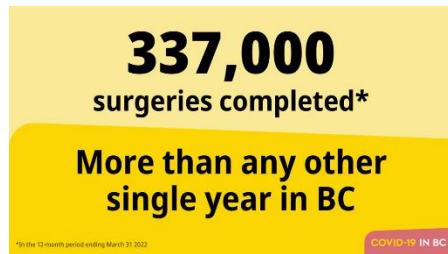
CLR-INFO

[CLR Members,](#)

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

Provincial News

[Highly pathogenic bird flu detected in Richmond](#)



Farmers within a 12-kilometre radius in Richmond have been put on alert – after a small poultry flock tested positive for the highly pathogenic H5N1 avian flu.

According to an announcement Wednesday by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the infected premises have been placed under quarantine.

The CFIA said that, as well as Richmond, a small poultry flock tested positive in Kelowna, which has also been placed under quarantine. These are the third and fourth small flocks in B.C. that have contracted the virus. [Read more](#)

[Year 2 of surgical renewal delivers most surgeries ever completed in a year in B.C.](#)

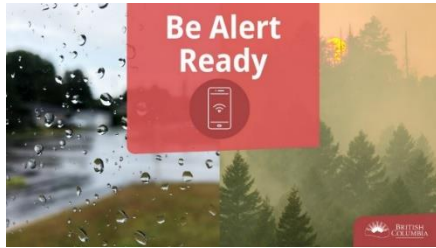
Saturday, May 7, 2022, marks the second anniversary of the government's commitment to surgical renewal.

On March 16, 2020, non-urgent scheduled surgeries were postponed because of COVID-19, and on May 18, 2020, non-urgent scheduled surgeries resumed. Since then, additional surgical postponements were caused by subsequent waves of COVID-19, extreme weather, and staff illness.

The surgical renewal commitment is B.C.'s commitment to deliver surgeries that were postponed because of COVID-19, to schedule and deliver surgeries that were not scheduled because of COVID-19, to deliver surgeries fastest to those who need them most, and to change the way surgeries are delivered in B.C.

[Learn more](#)

[B.C. conducts test of the system, expands emergency hazards alert](#)



A test of B.C.'s wireless alerting system was conducted at 1:55 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, as part of the national Alert Ready system to improve public safety in the event of an emergency.

This year, the Province is expanding the use of the Alert Ready system in B.C. beyond tsunami warnings and Amber Alerts to also include imminent threats from floods and wildfires.

The test is taking place during *Emergency Preparedness Week, May 1-7*. With weather-driven disasters becoming more frequent and destructive, everyone in B.C. needs to be ready. People are encouraged to understand the hazards in their area, gather emergency supplies and draft a plan with the information they need to stay safe. [Learn more](#)

[Province, mayors co-ordinate investigation into prolific offenders](#)



The Province, in cooperation with British Columbia's Urban Mayors' Caucus (BCUMC), has hired two experts to investigate and report on prolific offenders and random violent attacks, and the necessary actions.

In April, B.C.'s urban mayors sent detailed information to the Attorney General and Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General indicating that despite overall decreases in provincial and community crime rates, shifting crime patterns during the pandemic were particularly hurting downtown retail areas. Meetings with local and provincial police have confirmed these trends and pointed to a separate issue of random violent attacks in some centres.

The experts in policing and mental health were identified and hired to investigate these trends, propose solutions and help the government implement them. A written report with recommendations will be prepared as part of the investigation and released publicly in the early fall.

[Local tourism events resume throughout B.C.](#)



The provincial government is investing \$5 million to support events between October 2022 and September 2023. The Tourism Events Program aims to strengthen B.C.'s reputation as a top tourism destination and increase tourism benefits to communities.

Applications to the Tourism Events Program will be accepted starting April 27, 2022, until May 31, 2022. While historically an annual program, it was paused in spring 2020 due to pandemic restrictions and guidelines limiting gatherings.

The program supports events that aim to drive visitation from outside local areas, align with key tourism strategies and broader government priorities, demonstrate financial sustainability, and support diversity and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Learn More:

Interested groups can review the program criteria, eligibility and application process online: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/tourism-immigration/tourism-resources/tourism-funding-programs/tourism-events-program>

Federal Supports

Government of Canada funds NGOs to build capacity, respond to emergencies

May 4, Bill Blair, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness, announced \$150 million for the *Supporting a Humanitarian Workforce to Respond to COVID-19 and Other Large-Scale Emergencies* (HWF) program to support both capacity building and domestic response resources to four of Canada's top emergency management NGOs.

To date, the Government of Canada has provided more than \$78 million to the Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, The Salvation Army, and the Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada (SARVAC) through this investment. This funding has allowed these organizations to mobilize in response to emerging events more quickly and deploy critical on-the-ground support to provincial, territorial and local governments.

Associated links

[Requests for Federal Assistance](#)

[COVID-19 Support to Provinces and Territories](#)

[Emergency Preparedness Week 2022](#)

Industry and Infrastructure

Coastal GasLink: Sections of B.C. LNG line complete



The company behind the [Coastal GasLink](#) liquefied natural gas pipeline across northern B.C. says it is approaching 65% overall completion of the project.

A statement from TC Energy says workers have completed two of eight sections of the 670-kilometre pipeline running from the Dawson Creek area to the LNG Canada processing and exporting facility being built in Kitimat. The statement says all pipe is installed on section 1 west of

Dawson Creek and section 4 north of Prince George, with those sections to be filled with pressurized water to ensure they are sealed and safe for operation. [Read more](#)

New commercial inspection station near Terrace will improve road safety

Construction will begin this spring on a new commercial vehicle inspection station east of Terrace, which will improve safety for drivers along the highway corridor.

A construction contract was awarded to IDL Projects Inc. to build the inspection station, which will replace the former station that was decommissioned when a roundabout was built at the intersection of highways 16 and 37.

The new inspection station will incorporate intelligent transportation system (ITS) technology, including weigh-in-motion, making it more efficient than the former station. [Read more](#)

[New EV Chargers Coming to British Columbia](#)

May 5, Jonathan Wilkinson, the federal Minister of Natural Resources, announced a \$1-million investment to the [Community Energy Association](#) to help support the installation of up to 90 EV chargers across British Columbia's Kootenay region.

This investment, which will make EV charging more accessible to all, is funded through Natural Resources Canada's [Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program \(ZEVIP\)](#).

The Community Energy Association will select recipients through a transparent process, based on demand. The EV chargers will then be installed in public places, multi-unit residential buildings, on streets, at workplaces, or at facilities for servicing light-duty vehicle fleets by October 2023.

NCLRA Conference in Vegas

CLR Members are invited to join the National Construction Labour Relations Alliance (NCLRA), its peers, and other contractors from across the country at this year's NCLRA conference in Las Vegas, NV **from September 27-29th, 2022.**

To learn more about the event, including the registration details, please visit [NCLRA Conference 2022 | NCLRA](#). You can also contact the NCLRA directly at 306-352-7909.

We are encouraging our members to take advantage of this exciting networking opportunity and to make the commitment to attend. In addition, it is our hope that you might consider supporting the conference with a sponsorship.



Stay safe,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO



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