

Provincial Announcements

November 19, 2020

By order and direction of the PHO, individuals and businesses in BC must significantly reduce social interactions and travel from November 19 at midnight. The order is in effect until December 7, 2020 at midnight. If you have questions about the PHO order issued on November 19, please contact the BC Ministry of Health or visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions>

November 10, 2020

The Government of British Columbia has [extended the Provincial State of Emergency](#) until the end of day on November 24, 2020.

November 7, 2020

A new Provincial Health Officer (PHO) order is issued for the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. The restrictions mean residents in communities within the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions can only socialize with those in their immediate household. No gatherings or household visitors are allowed. Review the [PHO order for the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley](#), which is in effect until 12:00pm on November 23, 2020.

October 27, 2020

The [Provincial State of Emergency has been extended](#) until the end of day on November 10, 2020.

October 9, 2020

The BC government announces a new Small and Medium-Sized Business [Recovery Grant program](#).

September 18, 2020

[Rent relief](#) coming for outdoor adventure operators.

September 18, 2020

Ten business and industry leaders have been appointed to a new [Provincial Tourism Task Force](#) focused on reigniting BC's tourism sector and enhancing its long-term competitiveness.

September 17, 2020

The Province releases the ["Stronger BC for Everyone: BC's Economic Recovery Plan"](#) – a cross-government approach to help all aspects of the tourism industry recover, create jobs and grow the economy.

September 2, 2020

Province confirms [tax measure implementation dates, deferral deadlines for businesses](#).

September 1, 2020

[Provincial State of Emergency extended](#) through the end of the day on September 15, 2020.

August 7, 2020

The Provincial Health Officer released a [new Public Health Order for gatherings and events](#). The order applies to persons who organize or attend events at vacation accommodation or other places; it does not apply to food service establishments or licensed premises.

August 5, 2020

[BC businesses can go electric with rebates](#) for specialized vehicles.

August 4, 2020

[Provincial state of emergency extended](#) through end of day on August 18, 2020.

July 29, 2020

New Public Health Order for [Restaurants, Pubs, Bars and Nightclubs](#).

July 27, 2020

New Public Health Order for [Gatherings and Events](#).

July 23, 2020

[Provincial state of emergency extended](#) through end of day on August 4, 2020.

July 7, 2020

[Provincial state of emergency extended](#) through end of day on July 21, 2020.

June 25, 2020

Temporary layoff provisions for workers, employers [extended](#).

June 25, 2020

The Province of BC has partnered with Small Business BC to establish an online [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Marketplace](#).

June 24, 2020

[BC begins gradual transition to Phase 3](#) of the Restart Plan.

June 18, 2020

The Province announces nearly [\\$14 Million in one-time grants](#) for over 150 projects to support economic development and recreation in rural communities throughout the province.

June 16, 2020

Temporary [wholesale pricing model for liquor licensees](#) to purchase beer, wine and spirits at reduced cost.

June 10, 2020

[Provincial state of emergency extended](#) through end of day on June 23, 2020.

June 1, 2020

BC strengthens Federal [commercial rent program](#) to protect BC businesses from evictions from landlords who won't participate in the rent-relief program.

May 31, 2020

The federal government announced a \$70M investment towards tourism across the country. Of this, [\\$30M will be funneled through Destination Canada](#) for programs aimed at encouraging Canadians to explore locally—from this, [Destination BC will receive \\$6M to bolster domestic tourism marketing](#). From the \$70M fund, tourism recovery efforts in western Canada will benefit from [\\$3.45 million delivered via Western Economic Diversification Canada](#): \$1M will support BC's Tourism Resiliency Network in five regions, and \$500,000 for Indigenous Tourism BC.

May 25, 2020

Province [supports tourism marketing organizations](#) to be ready for recovery.

May 24, 2020

Most [campgrounds, recreation sites opening](#) throughout the province.

May 22, 2020

[Patio, service area expansions](#) support safe reopening.

May 15, 2020

[WorkSafeBC guidelines](#) support safe reopening of businesses.

May 13, 2020

The BC Government announced that it is [extending the province's State of Emergency](#) until May 26, 2020.

May 6, 2020

Premier John Horgan [outlines plan to restart BC safely](#). You can find BC's Restart Plan [here](#).

May 4, 2020

Government creates [COVID-19 temporary layoff period](#).

May 1, 2020

Online applications open for [BC Emergency Benefit for Workers](#).

29 April, 2020

[BC extending state of emergency](#) to continue COVID-19 response.

24 April, 2020

[Rent relief on the way](#) for BC small businesses.

April 16, 2020

[New supports for businesses and local governments](#) will provide enhanced relief for businesses by reducing most commercial property tax bills by an average of 25%, along with new measures to support local governments facing temporary revenue shortfalls as a result of COVID-19.

April 16, 2020

A [new support service](#) will act as a single point of contact for businesses throughout the province looking for information on resources available during COVID-19.

April 15, 2020

The BC government has formally [extends the provincial state of emergency](#).

April 10, 2020

All returning travelers to BC must submit their 14-day self-isolation plan at their point of entry.

April 9, 2020

The Province announced \$5 million as part of the BC Action Plan to [expand existing mental health programs](#), enhance virtual options, and launch new services.

The [BC Temporary Rental Supplement Program](#) is announced, giving tenants and landlords temporary support towards rent payments for renters impacted by COVID-19.

April 2, 2020

A new [Economic Recovery Task Force](#) was announced, bringing together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits to help ensure the Province's economic response to COVID-19 is effective and responsive to the needs of British Columbians.

April 1, 2020

The Province of British Columbia and BC Hydro announced the [COVID-19 Relief Fund](#), which will waive charges for hard-hit small businesses for up to three months, providing some immediate help to those most in need.

March 23, 2020

- The BC government announced the [COVID-19 Action Plan: B.C.'s first steps to support people, businesses](#).

- Two significant changes were made to the Employment Standards Act to [protect jobs during difficult times](#).

March 20, 2020

The temporary closure or modified services to the following businesses in BC until further notice:

- Salons, spas and personal services.
- Casinos, community gaming centres and bingo halls.
- Bars, pubs and nightclubs.
- Restaurants must move to takeout or delivery only

March 18, 2020

A [Provincial State of Emergency is declared](#) to support the province-wide response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Declaring a state of emergency is an important measure to support our provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, and Minister of Health, Adrian Dix, in swift and powerful response to the virus. Go to [BC Gov News](#) for the latest news releases on COVID-19, where you can find out more about the provincial measures in place to contain the virus, including:

March 16, 2020

Gatherings or events larger than 50 people are prohibited until further notice. This includes indoor and outdoor sporting events, conferences, meetings, religious gatherings and other similar events.