

Working For People

After 16 years of BC Liberal government neglect on the issues that are important to British Columbians, Premier John Horgan and the New Democrat government have been making different choices to make life better for people across the province.

Since forming government in 2017, here are some of the things the New Democrat government has done to make life more affordable, improve the services you count on, and build a strong, sustainable economy.

Affordability

- The [largest middle-class tax reduction in a generation](#) with the full elimination of MSP Premiums and the new B.C. Child Opportunity Benefit:
 - For example, a family of four earning \$60,000 will have their provincial taxes reduced by up to 60% compared to 2016, putting more than \$2,500 back into this family's pocket. A family of four earning \$80,000 will have their provincial taxes reduced by up to 43%.
- [Increasing the climate action tax credit](#) by 70% compared to 2017, putting up to \$500 back into the pockets of BC families by 2021.
- Eliminated interest on British Columbia [student loans](#), helping to ensure that students who have to borrow for their education don't end up paying more than those who don't.
- Launched a process of studying solutions to bring more transparency, flexibility, and affordability in [cellphone bills](#) for British Columbians.
- [Introduced tougher rules](#) on cheque-cashing fees and payday loan businesses to better protect consumers.
- Made [live-event ticket sales](#) fairer, by eliminating ticket bots and mass-buying software, and by bringing in consumer protections and fairer processes for people.
- Tasked BCUC with an [investigation](#) into what is driving high, volatile gasoline prices in British Columbia, and provided it with the broad reach it needs to find answers and give recommendations.
- Took action to lower drug costs by making record investments in [Fair PharmaCare](#), helping to negotiate a new national generics agreement and expanding the use of [biosimilar drugs](#).
- [Froze ferry fares](#) on all major BC Ferries routes, reduced fares on smaller routes, and restored the 100% Mon-Thurs seniors discount.
- Added over 1,000 new provincial campsites across BC, with no increase to [camping fees](#) for three years in a row.
- Started cleaning up the financial mess at ICBC left by the BC Liberals so that it works better for those [injured](#) and all British Columbia [drivers](#).

- Launched a [comprehensive two-phased review](#) of BC Hydro to clean up the mess of the previous BC Liberal government and keep rates low, allowing BC Hydro to apply to the Utilities Commission for a [rate decrease](#) for the first time in decades.
- Created access to affordable menstrual products by
 - Mandating all B.C. public schools to provide stigma-free access to [free menstrual products](#) for students in school washrooms by the end of 2019.
 - Providing \$95,000 to allow [12 non-profit organizations](#) to distribute free menstrual products to vulnerable populations across BC.
- Made accessing the [BC Building Code](#) online free, refunding \$2.5 million back to British Columbians, and making it easier for students, contractors, businesses and local governments to access these important codes for their studies and work.
- Provided \$1 million to the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra to hold [free or low-cost concerts](#) across the Lower Mainland for 3 years.

Housing

- Implementing an ambitious [30-point housing plan](#) to tackle the housing crisis and make the largest investment in housing affordability in B.C. history – more than \$7 billion over 10 years – so that all British Columbians can find an affordable place to live:
 - Supporting seniors, families, and low- and middle-income earners by funding [4,900 units of new affordable rental housing](#) to be built over three years through the Building BC: Community Housing Fund – the first phase of 14,000 homes over 10 years.
 - Funding [4,700 supportive housing units](#) for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, with more than 2,000 of these homes already open in communities across B.C.
 - Helping women and children leaving violence by funding [340 units of transition housing](#) – the first of 1,500 units and the first major investment in transition housing in more than two decades.
 - Making a historic investment in housing for Indigenous peoples by funding more than [1,100 homes](#) both on and off reserve, the first stage in 1,750 new units of Indigenous social housing over 10 years.
 - Paving the way for new student housing at [Thompson River University](#), [College of New Caledonia](#), [University of Victoria](#), [UBC-Okanagan](#), [College of the Rockies](#), [Terrace's Coast Mountain College](#), and [Simon Fraser University](#).
 - As of August 2019, there are more than 22,000 affordable homes completed or underway in close to 90 communities across BC.
- Taking action to help stabilize B.C.'s overheated real estate market, including:
 - Introducing the [speculation and vacancy tax](#) to target foreign and domestic speculators who own homes in B.C. but do not pay tax here, turn empty

- homes into available housing for people and raise revenue that will go to supporting affordable housing.
- Increasing the foreign buyers tax to 20% and expanding it to other urban areas.
 - [Cracking down on tax fraud and closing real estate loopholes](#) to make sure people are paying their fair share of taxes. This includes creating Canada's first ever pre-sale condo registry to crack down on flipping.
 - Taking action to [end hidden ownership](#) by requiring more information on beneficial owners and proposing legislation to establish a publicly accessible registry of beneficial ownership.
 - Launching a public inquiry on money laundering in BC, after three independent reviews revealed that each year billions of dollars are laundered through our real estate market and other sectors of the economy.
 - Taking action to support renters:
 - Limiting annual allowable [rent increases](#), and closing the [fixed-term lease loophole](#), and the geographic rent increase loophole.
 - Expanding [rental assistance](#) for low-income families and seniors,
 - Ensuring fairness for tenants during [renovations or demolitions](#).
 - Funding community rent banks to help people in financial crisis avoid potential eviction.
 - Improving service at the Residential Tenancy Branch through [increased resources](#).
 - Giving local governments a [new rental zoning tool](#) to give them the power to protect and encourage the building of rentals.
 - Providing [\\$5 million](#) to help local governments collect data for housing needs assessments.
 - Creating opportunities for municipalities to be early adopters of innovative, sustainable [mass timber](#) building technologies.

Poverty Reduction

- Launched [TogetherBC](#), British Columbia's first poverty reduction strategy, which sets a path to reduce overall poverty in B.C. by 25% and child poverty by 50% by 2024.
- Invested \$26 million in [income and disability assistance enhancements](#) to the B.C. Employment Assistance program to help remove barriers to accessing support.
- Updated [income and disability assistance policies](#) to remove barriers and make it easier for people to get help when they need it most. These simple and supportive changes are a move away from the mean-spirited policies of the past and will allow people to access essential services and keep them from falling further and further behind.

- Introduced the [Disability Transportation Supplement](#), which can be used for a BC Bus Pass – a program cruelly taken away by the BC Liberals.
- Increased income and disability assistance rates by a total of \$150 per month, since forming government in 2017.
- [Increased earnings exemptions](#) for people on income and disability assistance by \$200 a month.
- Increased the minimum wage — which will reach [\\$15-an-hour](#) by June 2021 — benefitting 400,000 workers throughout the province.
- Created a \$3 million grant to [improve access to fresh, nutritious, affordable food](#) for thousands of low-income individuals and families who regularly experience food insecurity.
- As part of TogetherBC, provided \$5 million to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for the [Poverty Reduction Planning & Action program](#) to help municipalities and community organizations identify their most pressing local issues and develop local solutions in the fight against poverty.
- Increased the [daily rates](#) for eligible income assistance clients living at registered or licensed residences for the first time in 10 years.
- Provided \$6 million to create the [Homelessness Community Action grant](#) to help prevent homelessness and support organizations on the ground address homelessness in their communities.
- Contributed \$10 million to the Vancity Community Foundation to develop a sustainable, province wide [rent bank](#) system to support renters facing financial difficulties to avoid evictions and prevent homelessness.
- Improved accessibility and independence for people with severe communication disabilities by providing \$9.3 million in new funding for [communication technology and support](#), to help people fully participate in their communities.

Child Care

- Investing a record \$1.3 billion in child care over three years, building the foundation for a universal child care system that will give B.C. parents access to affordable, quality child care when they want or need it.
- Creating over 10,400 new, licensed child care spaces in communities across B.C. through the [ChildcareBC Plan](#).
- Launched the Fee Reduction Initiative and the Affordable Child Care Benefit, saving many families more than \$19,000 per year.
- Converted over 2,500 licensed child care spaces across the province into [prototype universal child care sites](#), limiting costs for families to \$200 per month per child.
- Investing in [Early Childhood Educators](#) by providing wage enhancements, on-the-job training opportunities and other measures designed to support professionals at the centre of B.C.'s child care system.

- Created more than [600 new, free licensed child care spaces](#) and expanded Aboriginal Head Start (AHS) programs that will benefit Indigenous families in over 30 communities throughout the province.

Children and Families

- Gave foster parents and other caregivers [a boost in support payments](#) – the first increase in a decade – to provide more support to some of B.C.’s most-vulnerable children and adults.
- Ensured that Indigenous children can be cared for in their communities by giving family members [equal pay to foster parents](#) when they care for children through the Extended Family Program.
- Increased funding and supports under the Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) Program by:
 - Removing barriers for youth leaving care by [supporting tuition waivers](#) and [helping with living expenses](#) for their post-secondary studies up to age 27.
 - Increasing the needs-based monthly support rate by up to \$250, to a maximum of \$1,250.
 - Allowing for year-round financial support, so young people can continue to receive supports during school program breaks.
- [Ended](#) the discriminatory practice of hospital ‘birth alerts’.
- Expanded the province’s program of [respite care](#) for families with children who have special needs, benefiting more than 1,300 additional families.

Health Care

- Investing [\\$4.4 billion over three years](#) to expand and upgrade hospitals, equipment and management systems, to ensure patients have the quality care they deserve, community by community, across B.C.
- Launched our [Primary Health Care Strategy](#), focusing on faster, team-based care, including:
 - Hiring hundreds of new primary care practitioners;
 - Opening urgent primary care centres and community health centres across B.C.;
 - Establishing primary care networks across 70% of B.C. communities over three years.
- Dramatically boosting the number of [MRI exams](#) and elective surgeries as part of our Surgical and Diagnostic Strategy.

- Increasing the number of cancer-related surgeries, diagnostic imaging, PET and CT scans, to ensure faster access to these life-saving services.
- Increasing [staffing levels in long-term care homes](#) to make sure seniors are getting the quality care they need and deserve.
- [Scrapped](#) the “first available bed” policy for seniors looking for long-term care, so that families have more choice, and seniors have the option of waiting at home with additional supports.
- [Removed age restrictions on insulin-pump coverage](#), so that everyone who needs this device to manage diabetes is able to live their lives to the fullest.
- Invested more than \$1 billion over three years to [improve care for seniors](#), including investments in primary care, home health, long-term care and assisted living.
- Took action to lower drug costs by making record investments in [Fair PharmaCare](#), helping to negotiate a new national generics agreement and expanding the use of [biosimilar drugs](#).
- Introduced the most comprehensive regulations in the country on [vaping products](#) to protect youth.

Mental Health and Addictions

- Created a stand-alone Ministry for Mental Health and Addictions to take province-wide action to combat the overdose crisis, and help people living with mental illness and addictions.
- Launched [A Pathway to Hope](#), which lays out government’s 10-year vision for mental health and addictions care that gets people the services they need in order to tackle problems early on and support their well-being.
- Since Budget Update 2017, this government has provided \$608 million through to 2021/22, including an additional \$30 million in Budget 2019, to combat the overdose crisis, including:
 - Expanding access to life-saving naloxone kits
 - Funding pilot programs to help meet increased demand for paramedics in rural and remote areas of B.C.
 - Funding 35 [Community Action Teams \(CAT\)](#) to provide on-the-ground support in response to the overdose crisis in the hardest-hit communities.
 - [Supporting](#) First Nations organizations and Indigenous Peoples in addressing the ongoing impacts of the overdose crisis in their communities.
- Launched a class action [lawsuit against opioid drug companies](#), whose marketing practices have had devastating impacts on the lives of thousands of British Columbians.
- Expanded [Foundry centres](#), with a total of 19 planned, giving young people and their families across B.C. access to a one-stop-shop to support their mental health and wellness.

- Invested \$8.87 million over the next three years to provide individual grants to all 60 school districts to [better support youth](#) with mental health and substance-use challenges.
- Broke ground on a new state-of-the-art [mental health and addictions centre](#) on the Riverview lands.
- Invested \$4.7 million in a [therapeutic recovery community](#) in Greater Victoria for men who have repeat experiences with incarceration, homelessness and addiction, which if successful may be expanded to other parts of the province.
- Increased access to community-based [low- and no-cost mental health and substance use supports](#) as part of \$10 million in grants awarded to community counselling programs throughout the province.
- Introducing new integrated child and youth teams in schools – starting with [Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows](#) and [Comox Valley](#) schools – focused on prevention, wellness promotion and early intervention.

Education

- [Provided \\$6.6 billion to support students](#) for the 2019/20 school year, \$1 billion more than the old government provided in 2016/17. For the first time since 2006, all 60 school districts saw an increase in funding for the 2019/20 school year.
 - Reduced class sizes and increased support in classrooms by hiring 4,000 new teachers, special education teachers, and psychologists and counsellors. Invested almost \$1 million to train new specialist teachers.
 - Hired 1,000 new education assistants (EAs) to better support students with special needs.
 - Investing \$2.7 billion over 3 years for new and replacement schools, expansions, and to fast-track seismic upgrades to keep kids safe.
- Created a new annual \$5 million [school playground fund](#), to ensure that having safe and accessible playground equipment is not dependent on parents' ability to fundraise.
- Negotiated a [BC Tripartite Education Agreement](#) (BCTEA) with Indigenous education rights-holders that commits the federal government to provide an additional \$100 million over 5 years and guarantees equal per-pupil funding of on-reserve Indigenous students with local school district students - the first and only such agreement of its kind in Canada.
- Required all public schools to provide students with equitable, stigma-free access to [free menstrual products in school washrooms](#).
- Approved curriculum for 17 First Nations languages to be taught in B.C. schools, with more in development.

Advanced Education and Skills Training

- Restored [tuition-free](#) Adult Basic English and English Language Learning, removing roadblocks set up by the BC Liberals for people wanting to upgrade and pursue their dreams.
- Eliminated interest on British Columbia [student loans](#), helping to ensure that students who have to borrow for their education don't end up paying more than those who don't.
- Funded 27,000+ apprenticeship and foundation training seats in public and private institutes in Budget 2019.
- Funded the first [Indigenous law degree program](#) in all of Canada at UVic – answering Article 50 of TRC.
- Invested \$12 million to support [graduate degree scholarships](#) for Masters and Doctoral degree students.
- Adding [2,900 new tech-related seats](#) at public colleges and universities in new and expanded programs across the province.

- Eliminated post-secondary tuition and provided additional funding for living expenses for former youth in care, up to age 27. With this elimination of fees, so far [over 1119 former youth in care](#) have been able to attend post-secondary and work towards their dreams.
- Invested in open education resources including more [open textbooks](#) for students and instructors, reducing the burden of cost and leveling the playing field for students at post-secondary institutions across the province.
- Invested funding for new skills training and employment programs for [survivors of violence and abuse](#), older workers, adult learners and people facing multiple barriers to employment to empower people to achieve their educational and professional goals.
- Expanded program spaces and bursary funding for those wanting to pursue a career in child care as an [early childhood educator \(ECE\)](#), as part of the Province's commitment to create a universal child care system in B.C.
- Created the first [nursing](#) degree program in the Northeast and increased funding to create a number of additional seats in programs such as: [occupational and physical therapy](#), [Indigenous teacher education](#), health care assistant training and trades.
- Opened new state-of-the-art facilities to support [SFU sustainable energy engineering](#) students, students preparing for careers in the health and social services sectors at Camosun College with the Alex & Jo Campbell [Centre for Health and Wellness](#) and [Selkirk College](#) trades students.
- Launched a [sexual violence prevention campaign](#) at all of British Columbia's public post-secondary campuses to educate students, faculty, staff and the broader public about consent, because people deserve to feel safe and free from potential sexual violence.

- Provided \$9 million to [expand co-op and work-integrated learning](#) at post-secondary institutions so students will have more opportunities to gain real-life, relevant work experience that will give them a leg-up in their careers

Arts, Sports, and Tourism

- Established [AMPLIFY BC](#), the province's new music fund aimed at supporting people working in our diverse music industry.
- Supported our province's vibrant communities and creative economy by boosting funding for the [BC Arts Council and Creative BC](#).
- Helped people who live and work in resort municipalities with more stable investments to better support our [tourism industry](#).
- Invested \$2.5-million over the next three years so that [Sport BC](#) can expand programs aimed at increasing participation by children who are often under-represented in sport, including children from lower-income families, Indigenous children, children and youth with disabilities, girls, and newcomers to Canada.

Economy

- [Led the B.C. economy](#) to deliver some of the strongest employment growth and lowest unemployment rates in the country, continued [strong wage growth](#), among the highest gross domestic product (GDP) growth and a balanced budget that invests in people and communities.
- [Eliminated B.C.'s operating debt](#) for the first time in 40 years, while delivering some of the strongest economic growth in the country.
- [Restored the tax benefit](#) and lifted the cap on lending for credit unions.
- Kept our commitment to [fight for B.C. forestry jobs](#) in the U.S and to advance B.C.'s interests in the ongoing [softwood lumber dispute](#).
- Strengthened relationships and expanded economic ties with [India, South Korea and Japan](#), as well as the [United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands](#).
- Introduced a [new, simplified procurement strategy](#) to take advantage of government's buying power to help grow local economies, create jobs throughout the province, and make good use of made-in-B.C. innovation.
- Established a new LNG Framework that helped deliver a record [\\$40 billion investment by LNG Canada](#) while meeting our four conditions:
 1. a fair return for B.C.'s natural resources,
 2. guaranteed jobs and training opportunities for British Columbians,
 3. respect and partnerships with First Nations,
 4. and protection of B.C.'s air, land and water, including living up to the Province's climate commitments.
- Exploring the feasibility of [ultra-high-speed rail](#) service between British Columbia, Washington and Oregon, which could have huge economic benefits, drawing new companies to the region, creating an estimated \$355 billion in economic growth and up to 200,000 new jobs.

- Created the [Food Security Task Force](#) to find new ways to use technology and innovation to strengthen B.C.'s agriculture sector and grow the economy by helping farmers farm and processors become more productive, now and in the future.
- Invested \$5 million in [Geoscience BC](#) to help attract investment, create jobs and gather data by supporting their minerals, energy and water earth science research.
- Created the annual Buy BC: [Eat Drink Local](#) campaign, which connects local farmers, ranchers and growers with restaurateurs and chefs who develop feature menus highlighting locally grown and processed food and drinks, creating interest and growth in BC's local food and beverage industry.

Jobs

- Creating tens of thousands of jobs in communities around B.C. with more than \$20 billion building hospitals, schools, and transportation projects — the [largest infrastructure investment in B.C.'s history](#).
- Ensured good-paying jobs, better training and apprenticeships, and more trades opportunities for Indigenous peoples, women and youth in key public-sector infrastructure projects in B.C. through [Community Benefits Agreements](#).
- Building an [innovation corridor](#) that will drive economic growth and create good jobs and opportunity for people in Surrey and the Fraser Valley, including establishing a Quantum Algorithms Institute at Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus which will position B.C. as a world leader in this emerging field.
- Supported job creators by [cutting the small business tax rate](#) by 20 per cent.
- Ensuring that [more B.C. logs are processed in B.C.](#), creating jobs for British Columbians by applying a new, targeted fee-in-lieu of manufacturing for exported logs harvested from a coastal BC Timber Sales license.
- Investing in the development of B.C.'s clean energy vehicle (CEV) sector, creating good jobs and supporting low-carbon innovation, by providing \$147,000 to Burnaby's [AVL Fuel Cell Canada](#), \$55,000 to Richmond-based [IRDI Systems](#), and \$290,000 to Kootenay-based [Eagle Graphite](#).

Rural Communities

- Working with the federal government to invest nearly \$230 million to build arenas, community centres, and other [infrastructure projects](#) in communities across rural and northern BC.
- Increasing the value of each log we take out of the forest, by processing more B.C. logs on the coast and redirecting wood waste to B.C.'s pulp and paper mills, as part of the [Coast Forest Sector Revitalization Initiative](#).

- Launched a regionally driven renewal of the province's [Interior forest industry](#), aimed at developing a competitive, sustainable future for forest companies, workers and communities.
- Allocated \$69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia [forest workers](#) impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several B.C. Interior communities.
- Creating more jobs across BC with over \$27 million in project grants to support 38 projects that will help [increase the use of wood fibre](#) that otherwise would have been burned as slash.
- Made changes to the [Forest Act](#) to make sure that British Columbians are first in line to benefit from our publicly owned forests, and that the First Nations, workers and communities have more say in how those forests are managed.
- Expanded [high-speed internet](#) for people living in 479 rural and remote communities, including 83 Indigenous communities and approximately 45,000 households through our Connecting British Columbia program – helping to diversity economic opportunities in rural communities.
- Granted \$1.2 million to [expand cellular services](#) along Highway 16.
- Increased jobs and opportunity for BC's forest communities by proactively adopting [building code changes](#) allowing the safe construction of taller wood buildings.
- [Reinvesting in the northwest](#) with a \$100 million grant to address long-standing infrastructure needs in four regional districts (Fraser Fort George, Bulkley Nechako, Kitimat Stikine and North Coast) and their 22 municipalities.
- Signed a [bilateral agreement](#) with the federal government to provide up to \$6 billion in funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan over the next decade for infrastructure projects in BC.
- Provided over \$675,000 to the [Cannabis Business Transition Initiative](#) to help cannabis producers in the Kootenays transition to the legal market.
- Encouraging more food and beverage processing in B.C. through 6 [regional food hubs](#) that will provide local food producers and processors access to the expertise and equipment needed to grow their business
- Expanded the [Export Navigator initiative](#) to help more rural business owners in B.C. get their goods to international and interprovincial markets.

Workers' Rights

- Passed legislation to create a [Temporary Foreign Worker Registry](#), and to better protect temporary foreign workers against exploitation and abuse.
- Introduced government [licensing requirements](#) for foreign worker recruiters starting Oct. 1, 2019.

- Amended the Workers Compensation Act to allow firefighters, wildfire firefighters, fire investigators, and firefighters working for First Nations and other Indigenous organizations [easier access to workers' compensation](#).
- Improved and simplified the process by which workers can make complaints to the [Employment Standards Branch](#), and got rid of the previous governments' "self-help kits".
- [Improved BC's Employment Standards Act](#) to:
 - better protect children and youth from dangerous work;
 - make it easier for workers to get help when they feel their rights have been violated;
 - provide more job protection to people dealing with difficult personal circumstances; and
 - ensure people are paid the wages they are owed — and that those that violate the law do not have an unfair advantage.

Public Safety

- Took action to keep at-risk youth out of gangs by:
 - Expanding the [ERASE anti-bullying program](#) that trains teachers and parents to identify and stop harmful behaviours.
 - Doubling funding for the [Surrey WRAP program](#).
- Added \$111 million over three years to continue strengthening the Province's efforts to combat and prevent wildfires.
- Added \$31 million—a funding increase of nearly 45% -- to the [Community Emergency Preparedness Fund](#) to support community resiliency in the face of wildfires, floods, and other emergencies.
- Allocated \$300,000 in funding to community organizations for prevention and intervention programs for perpetrators of [domestic violence](#).
- Started the process of modernizing BC's [Emergency Program Act](#), to improve the ways we work with other levels of government to better protect and support British Columbians before, during, and after natural disasters.
- Invested \$18.6 million in [BC Search and Rescue](#) organizations to help with training, equipment and administration—the biggest single investment in SAR in BC history.

Agriculture and Aquaculture

- Boosted B.C.'s agriculture industry and connected people to products grown and made in B.C. by [relaunching Buy BC](#), and expanded the program to include Grow BC and [Feed BC](#).

- Committed \$8.3 million over three years to develop the [B.C. Food Hub Network](#), linking food producers and processors with shared technology, research and development, production equipment, expertise and services.
- [Protected B.C.'s farmland](#) by addressing mega-mansions and speculation on ALR land.
- Established [rigorous new rules and expectations](#) for the renewal of salmon farm tenures in B.C. waters.
- Committed over \$42-million over 5 years to the [BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund](#), a joint initiative with the federal government to support B.C.'s fish and seafood sector and ensure the sustainability of wild salmon.
- Led a ground-breaking government-to-government process to chart a path forward in the [Broughton Archipelago](#), ensuring the safety of wild salmon and economic opportunities for First Nations and local communities.
- Supported access to affordable farmland for young farmers through the [B.C. Land Matching Program](#).
- Supporting farmers and ranchers through B.C.'s new [AgriStability Enhancement Program](#) to help producers recover from tough times.

Environment and Climate Change

- Invested nearly \$1-billion in [CleanBC](#), B.C.'s plan to tackle climate change, putting B.C. on the path to a cleaner, brighter, low-carbon future, while creating more jobs and economic opportunities for people, businesses and communities.
- Signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the federal government to affirm a joint commitment to power British Columbia's natural gas production and liquefied natural gas (LNG) sectors with clean electricity.
- Launched [Move. Commute. Connect.](#): B.C.'s new strategy for cleaner, more active transportation, which aims to double the percentage of trips taken with active transportation by 2030.
- Requiring the sale of all new light-duty cars and trucks in B.C. to be zero-emission vehicles [by the year 2040](#), removing a major source of air pollution and climate change.
- Created EfficiencyBC, a [home and commercial retrofit program](#) that saves households and businesses money by reducing energy bills and increasing energy efficiency.
- Requiring all new buildings in B.C. to be [net-zero-energy ready](#) by 2032, and all new government facilities to use 100% clean energy by 2022.
- Retrofitting [B.C.'s social housing stock](#) and [government buildings](#) to make them more energy efficient, safer for residents, and cut greenhouse gas emissions.
- [Took action](#) to protect our environment, economy, and our coast from the drastic consequence of a diluted bitumen spill.
- Increasing the [Climate Action Tax Credit](#) by 14%, putting more money back in the pockets of low and middle-income families.

- In partnership with the federal government and BC Transit, invested in [new buses](#) to replace older, higher-emission buses, and meet the growing demand for public transit in BC.
- Protected some of the province's [largest trees](#) as the first step in a new approach to old-growth management.
- Put an end to the [grizzly bear hunt](#), ensuring the protection of one of B.C.'s most iconic species.
- Made an historic \$20-million investment to fund a fair, independent oversight body in the [mining sector](#).
- Took action to help ensure that disasters like the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond spill never happen again, by implementing science-based [public oversight](#) in the management of B.C.'s natural resources.
- Modernized [environmental assessment](#) to ensure that good projects that respect B.C.'s environment and the public are approved, and that First Nations are involved meaningfully through the entire process.
- Created the Wild Salmon Advisory Council which developed a made-in-B.C. [Wild Salmon Strategy](#), as part of our government's commitment to support restoring healthy and abundant wild salmon stocks in B.C.
- Mandated better accountability, transparency and more detailed targets for climate action under a new [Climate Change Accountability Act](#), to make sure our province is on track for long-term emission reductions.
- Engaged with British Columbians to seek feedback on how the Province can [reduce and recycle more plastics](#), including those that would otherwise end up in our landfills, environment and water systems.

Transportation

- [Removed unfair tolls](#) on the Port Mann Bridge and Golden Ears Bridge, saving commuters in the lower mainland up to \$1,500 a year.
- [Froze ferry fares](#) on all major BC Ferries routes, reduced fares on smaller routes, and restored the 100% Mon-Thurs seniors discount.
- [Restored service to 10 ferry routes](#) that were cut by the BC Liberals in 2014.
- Amended the [Coastal Ferries Act](#) to put people at the centre of BC Ferries' decision-making.
- Launched a [new BC Bus North service](#) in response to Greyhound's decision to eliminate service on routes in northern B.C., ensuring people in the North have access to safe, reliable and affordable transportation.
- Retained over 83% of Greyhound's [long-haul bus routes](#) by working with local service providers and fast-tracking applications. And we're continuing to work on addressing service gaps across B.C.
- Put [ride-hailing regulations](#) in place that will focus on passenger, driver and company safety, and will allow companies to apply to the Passenger Transportation Board in September 2019, with companies expected to be operating by the end of the year.

- Funding 40% of the capital costs of the [Mayors' Council 10-Year Vision](#) to ensure we're investing in a modern, integrated and affordable transit system that is crucial as Metro Vancouver grows, including:
 - Five new [RapidBus](#) routes to serve 11 communities, beginning in January 2020. Two additional RapidBus routes are expected to launch in 2021 to serve Surrey, Delta and Richmond, with five more routes planned for Phase Three.
 - [200 new SkyTrain cars](#) to replace 150 aging cars and increase capacity, 40,000 additional bus service hours, and 10-minute SeaBus sailings increasing capacity by 50% during peak hours.
- Committing \$1.82 billion in provincial funding for the [Broadway Subway project](#) to reduce congestion in Metro Vancouver.
- Fully funded the [Pattullo Bridge](#) replacement, bringing commuters one step closer to a modern, safer crossing. Building with a CBA to provide good-paying jobs to local people and address the skilled trades shortage.
- Six-laning Highway 1 from 216th to 264th St, with new HOV lanes connecting commuters from Aldergrove to Burnaby.
- Launched [Move. Commute. Connect.](#): B.C.'s new strategy for cleaner, more active transportation, which aims to double the percentage of trips taken with active transportation by 2030.
- [Changing the Motor Vehicle Act](#) to allow for the launch of mobility technology pilot projects, like e-scooters, electric unicycles or e-skateboards.
- Made it more convenient to drive electric vehicles with the [installation of 12 charging stations](#) throughout the province, with 6 more on the way.

Reconciliation

- Made Reconciliation a cross-government priority by mandating all ministries to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- [Co-developed legislation](#) with B.C. First Nations to establish UNDRIP as the framework for reconciliation in British Columbia.
- Made an historic agreement to [share gaming revenue](#) with B.C. First Nations starting in 2019, to ensure Indigenous peoples have the funding they need to invest in their communities.
- Ensured Indigenous children and their families have [better access to culturally enriched early learning](#) with more than 600 new, free licensed child care spaces and expanded Aboriginal Head Start (AHS) programs in over 30 communities across the province.
- Signed an Accord to [transform treaty negotiations](#) in B.C., to get results in a shorter timeframe that lead to prosperous, healthy and self-determining Indigenous communities.

- Partnered with the Aboriginal Justice Council to develop an [Indigenous Justice Strategy](#) to reduce the over-representation of Indigenous peoples in B.C.'s justice system.
- Added a [new professional standard](#) that requires teachers to commit to truth, reconciliation and healing to ensure Indigenous students in British Columbia will be better supported and be more connected in school.
- Renamed four provincial parks and one watershed protected area to include a [traditional Indigenous name](#), to reflect their historic and cultural significance.
- Supported the revitalization and preservation of [Indigenous languages](#) through a \$50 million grant to the First Peoples' Cultural Council.
- Provided \$40 million to build and revitalize culturally safe, [First Nations-run mental health and addictions treatment centres](#) throughout British Columbia.
- Provided dedicated funding to [Aboriginal friendship centres](#) for the first time, ensuring the continuity of these critical services for urban Indigenous peoples.
- Led a ground-breaking government-to-government process to chart a path forward in the [Broughton Archipelago](#), ensuring the safety of wild salmon and economic opportunities for First Nations and local communities.
- Partnered with UBCM to create the [Urban Communities Partnering for Reconciliation \(UCPR\)](#) initiative, which funds projects that support urban reconciliation efforts.
- Invested \$2.7 million in [Indigenous teacher education training](#) to help ensure all students can benefit from First Nations' languages, traditions, perspectives and history in the classroom.
- Approved curriculum for 17 First Nations languages to be taught in B.C. schools, with more in development.

Diversity and Human Rights

- Appointed B.C.'s first [Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity](#), Mitzi Dean, and using Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) to ensure gender equality is reflected in all budgets, policies, and programs.
- Re-established a B.C. [human rights commission](#) after it was dismantled by the BC Liberals in 2002.
- Appointed Kasari Govender as [B.C.'s first independent human rights commissioner](#).
- Introduced an [X gender option](#) on B.C.-issued identity documents for British Columbians who do not identify as male or female.
- [Co-developed legislation](#) with B.C. First Nations to establish UNDRIP as the framework for reconciliation in British Columbia.
- Formed the Provincial K-12 [SOGI Collaborative](#) and the B.C. SOGI Educator Network, officially committing to creating learning environments that are safe, acceptable, respectful and welcoming for all B.C. students.

- Supporting Indigenous communities and organizations to end gender-based violence by funding community-driven projects through [Giving Voice](#) that support, teach and celebrate Indigenous women throughout B.C.
- Safeguarded British Columbians' freedom of speech and expression through the re-introduction of [anti-SLAPP legislation](#).
- Provided \$200,000 for the June 2019 Feminists Deliver conference in downtown Vancouver, to support work on gender equality and collaboration among local women's groups.
- Launched the [Builders Code](#), an initiative with industry partners aimed at retaining more women in the construction trades by creating a supportive, inclusive work environment that works for everyone.
- Prioritized [women's representation](#), increasing the number of women on public sector boards by 41% from 2017. Women now make up over 49% of public sector board members in British Columbia.
- Revamped BC's [Multiculturalism Grants](#) program to help organizations working to improve cultural interactions, reduce barriers and remove discrimination to create a more inclusive province.
- Called on the federal government to add [conversion therapy](#) to the criminal code.
- Investing \$280,000 to support 36 communities across B.C. in delivering the [Organizing Against Hate and Racism Program](#)
- Investing \$175,000 in the [Respectful Workplace, Diversity and Gender Parity Fund](#) that supports projects aimed at fostering fair, inclusive and safe work environments in B.C.'s creative industries.

Good Government

- Banned big money in [provincial, municipal](#), and [recall campaigns](#), ensuring all people are at the centre of democracy, not just the wealthy and well-connected.
- Made British Columbia the [most transparent lobbying regime in Canada](#).
- Provided [legislative drafting services](#) to opposition members of the Legislative Assembly so all MLAs can better serve British Columbians.
- Cracked down on dirty money in B.C. [casinos](#), [real estate and other sectors](#).
- Helped ensure families across the country can celebrate together by [moving Family Day](#) to the third week in February.
- Created the [B.C. financial services authority](#), a new crown corporation that will more effectively protect people when they use financial services and boost oversight of the sector to support a strong, sustainable economy and make life better for people.

We're going to keep working for you to fix problems, get results for people, and together, build a better future for everyone in British Columbia.

