



MLA Kelly Greene - Richmond Steveston Community Newsletter

Spring Break Edition

Office address to be announced 2022!



Spring is coming, and we can see signs of new life everywhere we turn in Richmond-Steveston! With the Sunday March 13 Spring Forward, we are getting even more daylight in our day! To start spring, our provincial government released Budget 2022. We are going to continue to make life better for people by investing in our economic, environmental, and social strengths.

We are all connected. Right now, there is a lot of grief in this world, and at times, it can be overwhelming. It seems as if as time passes that new tragedies unfold, causing suffering and heartbreak for all those affected. When we connect meaningfully, we feel connection and hope for the future. This month, I connected virtually with classrooms and a seniors' residence discussion

group. We talked about the hope we have for democracy, for women and gender diverse people and people of colour to keep up the momentum to equitable participation and inclusion in our society! In this newsletter, you will find health restriction news, government news relevant to our community here in Steveston, community events, and vaccination information.

Budget 2022



Budget day in British Columbia - legislated as the fourth Tuesday in February - is anticipated with much excitement by MLAs, stakeholders, and the media. This year, Budget Day was February 22, 2022.

Through Budget 2022, our provincial government is investing in BC's economic, environmental and social strengths: supporting bold actions to fight climate change and to protect people and communities from climate-related disasters; reducing child care costs; delivering a comprehensive approach to respond to and prevent homelessness; closing the digital divide; and growing an inclusive and sustainable economy.

Budget 2022 puts people first in the following ways:

- Saving parents money on full-day child care, preschool and before- and after-school care by cutting average fees to approximately \$20 per day, while delivering 40,000 new licensed spaces in the next 7 years
 - Connecting more than 280 remote, rural and Indigenous communities to high-speed internet, improving access to digital health-care services, education, employment and business opportunities
 - Investing in an inclusive and clean economy with the Stronger BC Economic Plan, which will close the skills gap, and grow the life sciences, green economy and agricultural sectors
 - Accelerating investments to build more affordable and mixed-income housing projects faster
 - Protecting people and communities from climate-related disasters, including moving BC Wildfire Services to a proactive year-round model, supporting local governments to prepare for climate disasters
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Kelly and the Community

Visiting Diefenbaker Elementary



At my virtual visit at Diefenbaker Elementary, I shared with the students information about our provincial legislative assembly and also the importance of exercising our right to vote in our democracy. We want MLAs that represent us, because a majority of MLAs decide what is important. They make new laws and they budget for services and infrastructure costs. Therefore, it is important to **vote** to select a community representative who can be the voice of the community. Students had great questions about priorities and time management!

If you want Kelly to visit your Richmond-Steveston school, tell your teacher and contact our office! Another way to engage in our democracy is through participating in government consultations! By mid-September, the Ministry of Finance prepares a budget consultation paper which is presented to a multi-partisan committee. The committee, comprised of MLAs, is responsible for conducting public consultations on recommendations regarding the provincial budget. You can visit the [consultation page](#) here.

Engaging in these ways as a citizen is the heart of our democracy and one of the ways to create change. Important community investments, including the commitment to reduce costs for full-time care for children under 5, are one of the services that has great community champions!



Families will soon see an average **50%** reduction in costs for full-time care for children 5 and under

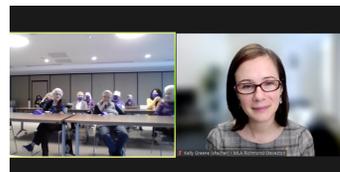


International Women's Day



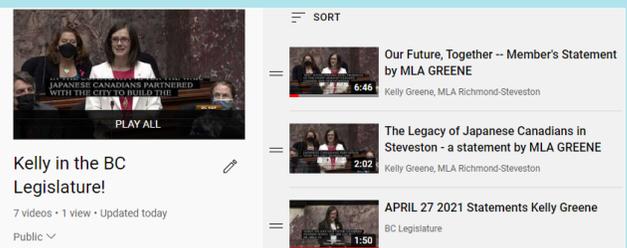
International Women's Day #IWD2022

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is *Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow*, recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world who are leading the charge on climate change solutions. Women's rights are good for all of society and good for the planet. Increased women's participation in government, as elected representatives, improves government outcomes in citizen health and economic performance. This month, I encourage the community to have conversations about gender equity and [browse through and borrow](#) IWD and gender justice-themed books at your local library!



Kelly speaking to residents at Wisteria Place on International Women's Day

It is worth repeating that women's rights are human rights. The human right to equality and equal participation in society, and the right to live without fear of gender-based discrimination or violence. Our provincial government will be delivering a multi-year action plan to address gender-based violence that will build on initiatives already underway, such as funding for community-based sexual assault response services provided in 2020 and 2021, and new funding announced with Budget 2022.



Videos of Kelly in the BC Legislature

Did you know Kelly has a [Youtube Channel](#)? Check out her recent March Chamber speeches! Recent statement topics include Welcome to Steveston, Japanese Canadian legacy in Steveston, and Our Future Together (working towards collective climate successes).

Community Notice

RCRG's Caregiver Hub Workshops

Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives is a hub for volunteering and giving. They are operating a Child Care Resource & Referral Centre, the Richmond Christmas Fund, and a wide range of Seniors Community Support Services, This month, March, their Caregiver workshops are *Tips for Senior Drivers* and *Exercise Together at Home (Cantonese)*.

Tips for Senior Drivers

Harvey Kooner from ICBC will go through the following topics:

- Pedestrian Safety & Distracted Driving
- Enhanced Road Assessment

There will also be a Q&A session at the end of the workshop for our participants.

Exercise Together at Home (Cantonese)

Exercise is suitable for individuals of all ages and abilities, even those who are frail, deconditioned or mobility restricted. This session will incorporate low-impact cardio, flexibility, balance This class is currently offered on Zoom every 4th Wednesday of the Month at 10am on Zoom.



Organizations assisting those impacted by the war in Ukraine

1. [Canadian Red Cross](#)
2. [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) (UNHCR)

Your support can help ensure that those in Ukraine forced to flee their homes are sheltered and safe.



Monitor symptoms and get tested



Wash your hands



Stay home if sick



Get vaccinated and boosted including kids



Respect people's comfort levels

Balanced approach to lifting restrictions and keeping communities safe and active

Masks are no longer required in most indoor public spaces starting today Friday, March 11. Long-term care visitation will be restored and faith gathering capacity limits will be lifted. Masks are encouraged on public transit and BC Ferries. **People have different levels of comfort and need, so please be respectful to each other.** The Proof of Vaccination Program (aka vaccine card) — which was mandated in non-essential indoor spaces like restaurants and gyms — will end on Friday, April 8.

Businesses and organizations may choose to continue with mask and/or vaccine card requirements.

Thank you to the 90.8% of British Columbians aged 12 and up have received a second dose of COVID-19 vaccine, so we could get to this point today. **Continue to monitor your health and stay home if you are sick.** Visit our BC Government [webpage](#) for details.

FREE INCOME TAX CLINIC

RMCS offers a free Income Tax Clinic
By Appointment Only

Feb 21 to May 6, 2022

Where: 210-7000 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond BC

To book an appointment, Please email: info@rmcs.bc.ca or call 604-279-7160

Please call us when you are outside of the Caring Place and we will let you know when to come to our office.

Tax Return will be processed by drop off only.



Eligibility:

- LOW-INCOME FAMILIES
 - = INDIVIDUAL: \$35,000
 - = COUPLE: \$45,000
 - = ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT: \$2,500
 - = INVESTMENT INCOME LESS THAN \$1,000
 - = NO RENTAL INCOME
 - = NOT SELF-EMPLOYED
- NEWCOMERS
- SENIORS
- STUDENTS
- INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
- TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS
- **EVEN IF YOU DO NOT MEET ELIGIBILITY, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL**



To book an income tax clinic appointment with RMCS, please email info@rmcs.bc.ca or call 604-279-7160. Alternatively, you can [try the Richmond Public Library](#).

Community Events



Be a Cannery Owner for a Day!

Sat, Mar 12-27, 2022 - daily from 10:00am-5:00pm. Check out the spring break Cannery Owner for a Day booklets from March 12-27 by going to the Steveston Community Centre to pick up! See what being a cannery owner in the twentieth century would entail! The program is designed for youth ages 8-12 years, and those still young at heart!

For more info, please contact Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site at (604) 664-9009!

Opportunity to Donate, Bid and Win!

March 2022

Richmond Women's Resource Centre's annual International Women's Day fundraiser and raffle are live now. You can go on [their website](#) to enter into their raffle, make a bid in their silent auction or make a [donation](#)!



Early Springtime Wharf Walk

Weather forecast shows that this and next week, we will see daytime temperatures of 5-8 degrees Celsius. This may be a perfect time for you to go on a walk on the Steveston Wharf.

Did you know that Steveston Harbour Authority is in responsible for the Wharf and they update which merchant vessels are on the wharf [daily on their website](#)? Prices and quantity only available at the sales float, not by phone or website, but you can call the Authority at 604-272-5539 for merchant vessel hours!

Besides the Wharf, you can also check out local Richmond shopping opportunities on the [BC Marketplace](#) website which is supported by the provincial government!



Dates and events of significance

- March 8 International Women's Day
- Mar 13 Spring Forward 1 Hour!
- Mar 14 International Day of Mathematics
- Mar 14-25 Spring Break ([recreational event registration](#))
- Mar 18 Holi
- March 18 Last Day to [nominate Richmond's Star Volunteers](#)
- Mar 20 Nowroz
- Mar 21 Poetry Day and Forest Day
- Mar 22 World Water Day
- March 31 International Transgender Visibility Day
- April 5 Qingming Festival (Chinese Tomb-Sweeping Day)

A Conversation with Kelly

I invite you to join me and the members of Richmond Women's Resource Centre for the new Virtual Zoom *Past, Present, Future Speaker's Series*!

I am the first speaker in the series (March 23 evening)!

Please **register before Monday March 21**. Registration link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpce2upzgsE9SYZcnHGNH0AN86HrdbZiY2>

RWRC
**PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
SPEAKER SERIES**



RICHMOND, WOMEN & THE ENVIRONMENT



MLA for Richmond-Steveston

*MLA
Kelly Greene*

Date: March 23rd, 2022
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Zoom

REGISTER NOW

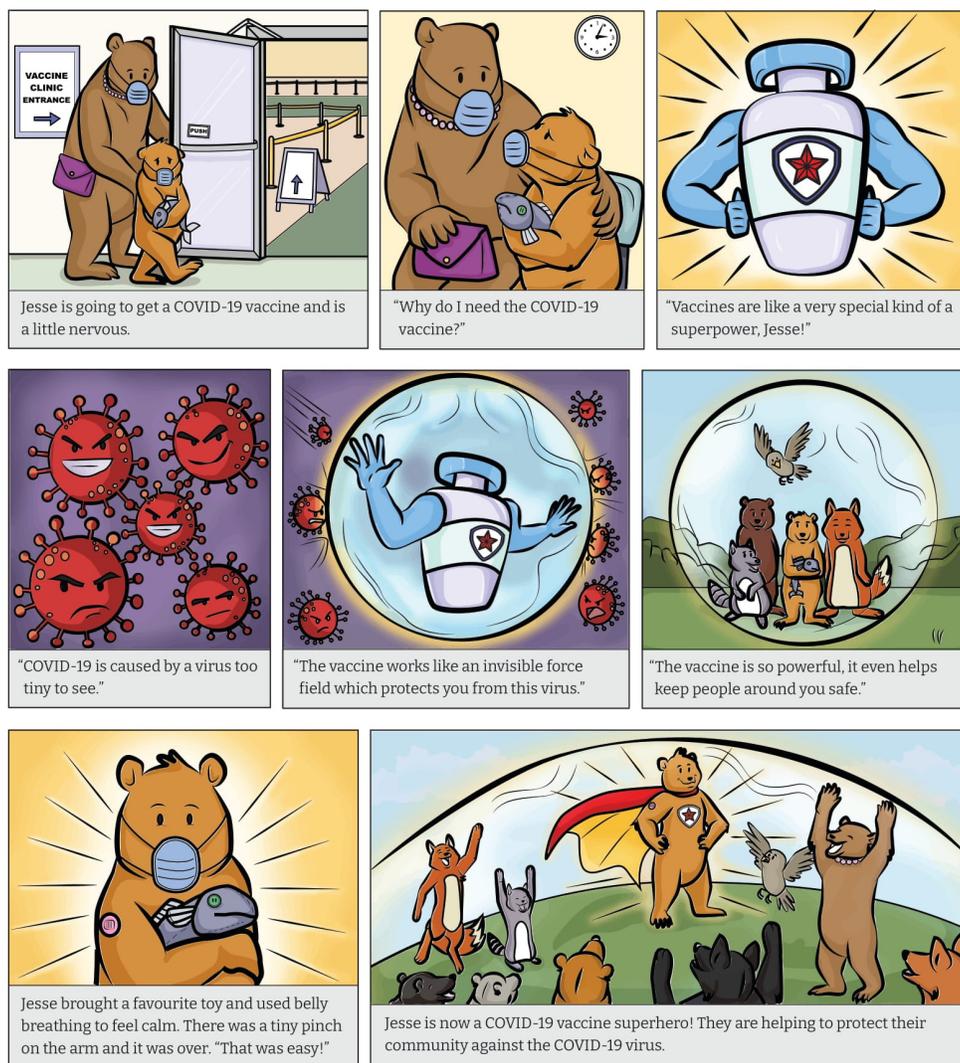
Learn More about Kelly Greene:
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Getting the whole family vaccinated!

Getting children vaccinated from COVID-19 provides a number of important benefits. While children five to 11 years of age are at a lower risk of serious outcomes from COVID-19 compared to other groups, vaccination will reduce their risk further and help protect vulnerable people in their home and community. The adult and pediatric vaccines available in Canada are very safe. As of Jan. 25, 2022, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommends that a complete vaccine series with the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty vaccine should be offered to children five to 11 years of age who do not have contraindications, with a dosing interval of at least 8 weeks between the first and second doses. If you have health-related questions, please call Healthlink by dialling 811 on your phone.



Children and adults can register for vaccination via the getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca website or the dedicated **phone line 1-833-838-2323 (translators available)**.

If you choose the online method, you will be emailed or texted (your choice) an invitation to book an appointment.

There are two types of clinics.

Ages 5 to 11 clinics: Specifically for children ages 5 to 11 and their parent or guardian

All ages clinics: For all individuals ages 5 and above

You can also bring your child to get vaccinated when you get your booster dose. You must both have an appointment that day. Note: adults who wish to receive their first or second dose can drop-in to any VCH vaccination clinic. They do not require an appointment.

For a child-friendly experience, parents or guardians can book an appointment at a dedicated children's clinic. For children who need a quieter space, please book at the Pacific Autism Family Network Age 5-11 Clinic as they have quiet rooms and sensory support available.