



WORKING FOR YOU

John Horgan's
Commitments to BC

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A MESSAGE FROM JOHN HORGAN

In 2020, the people of British Columbia have proven their commitment and passion for our province. Through unprecedented health risks, financial pressures and, sadly for too many, the heartbreak of losing someone close, people have put their family, neighbours, community and province first.

And with no end in sight for the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting financial hardships on people and businesses, British Columbia has reached a fork in the road. Election 2020 is about which path you want to take – about what kind of future you want as we face the new reality and move towards full recovery.

Before COVID-19 hit, we had begun fixing all the problems created through years of the BC Liberals working for people at the top while making you pay the price. And the progress we've made together continues with the plan we're presenting here. With your support, we can continue to move BC forward – investing in people, and delivering the programs and services that matter most to you.



John Horgan

**BC TOGETHER:
FIGHTING A
PANDEMIC**

**BETTER HEALTH CARE
FOR YOU
& YOUR FAMILY**

**AFFORDABILITY &
SECURITY
IN YOUR HOME
& COMMUNITY**

**GOOD JOBS &
LIVELIHOODS
FOR A CLEAN-ENERGY
FUTURE**

BC TOGETHER: FIGHTING A PANDEMIC

If 2020 has shown us anything, it's the positive strides our province can take when we all work together.

In the first six months of the pandemic, John Horgan and the NDP government launched its COVID-19 Action Plan, investing more than \$8 billion in services and supports that helped people, communities and local businesses. And we followed that up in September with a made-in-BC Economic Recovery Plan that will improve health care, get

people back to work, support BC businesses, and strengthen our neighbourhoods and communities.

Our COVID-19 Action and Economic Recovery plans are about making sure we look out for one another – just like you're doing every day.

BC'S COVID-19 ACTION PLAN: KEY INVESTMENTS

More than ever, putting people first has never been as important as it is in the COVID-19 reality. John Horgan and the NDP responded quickly with made-in-BC investments that filled in the gaps in federal supports, including:

- A \$1,000 Emergency Benefit for Workers provided to more than 600,000 workers in the province.
- Temporary rent relief for more than 86,000 renters, giving them security from the threat of eviction.
- Crisis supplements for more than 200,000 people on disability and income assistance.
- A doubling of the annual enhanced climate action tax credit, putting more money in the pockets of 80% of BC families.
- Property tax cuts, deferred tax payments, BC Hydro rate relief and more for businesses across the province.
- An Economic Recovery Plan that helps deliver a better future for people, communities, and businesses.



MOVING OUR COVID-19 PLAN FORWARD

Moving forward, John Horgan's NDP government will expand its COVID-19 Action Plan to cover five key areas that will help create more security for everyone in British Columbia:

1

Keeping people healthy and safe: In August, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam, warned that even with a vaccine, COVID-19 may well be around for years to come. Our Action Plan will stay in place, as we leverage the progress we've made in improving health services with new ideas to help keep people safe.

2

Providing free COVID-19 vaccines: When they are approved and available, anyone who wants the vaccine will receive it.

3

Getting BC ready for fall and winter: To make sure BC is ready for further phases of COVID-19 while also battling a new flu season, our \$1.6 billion preparedness plan will deliver: 7,000 new front-line health care workers in long-term care and assisted living; 2 million doses of flu vaccines; and, a new Hospital at Home program so patients can get safe care while in the comfort of their homes, and taking pressure off hospitals.

4

A long-term economic recovery plan: People have told us that to move forward, our province can't go back to the way things were under the BC Liberals – where tax cuts for those at the top left everyone else behind. That's why our economic recovery plan is built around people, communities, workers, and our province's small businesses.

5

Preparing British Columbia for the next one: COVID-19 has shown us what can happen when an unexpected and overwhelming health crisis occurs. Our job is to make BC ready for the next one. As part of our Action Plan, we're going to continue developing a pandemic prevention plan that brings to BC state-of-the-art testing, contact tracing, and hospital management procedures and technology.



BETTER HEALTH CARE FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY

We've accomplished a lot in three years, but coming on the heels of 16 years of neglect, there's more to do to fix health care in our province – and then make it work even better for you. That means:

FASTER CARE

with reduced wait times for the care you need by providing more surgeries, diagnostics and procedures, and training more health care professionals here in BC.

CLOSER CARE

through building new hospitals and additions, more community-based Urgent Primary Care Centres, and more e-health and tele-health services – allowing you to get the care you need in your community and even your home.

MORE PERSONALIZED CARE

where the health care “system” is more streamlined around your health needs, rather than you having to navigate your way through it.

REDUCING YOUR WAIT FOR CARE

After years of BC Liberal neglect of health care, we're getting results in reducing your wait for care. And 2021 will be a crucial year in our health care plan.

MORE DOCTORS, NURSES AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

We're acting now to get the doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals BC needs to cut wait times and deliver more personalized care to you.



A BETTER LIFE FOR SENIORS

BC seniors in care are still hurting from the damage done by 16 years of BC Liberal government neglect – we’re improving the level of care to help make seniors more secure and healthy.

A 10-YEAR CANCER CARE PLAN TO GET AND KEEP YOU HEALTHY

We need to make a big investment in how our province provides care to patients with cancer, with a focus on more individualized care from a team built around their needs.

SAVING LIVES, HEALING PAIN

BC is now on the right path to saving more lives and delivering the critical addictions and mental health services people need.



CARE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

For too long under the BC Liberals, people were often shut out of the health care they needed. The problems were everywhere – long waits, hallway medicine, a shortage of health professionals and, worst of all, a clear move toward private clinics where the rich would be able to jump the queue while the rest of us waited longer.

In three years, John Horgan and the NDP have begun to turn the corner – with better, more affordable public health care where people are treated faster. The next term as government is critical to continuing the work we started, including:

- **Delivering more Urgent Primary Care Centres:** In addition to the 21 UPCCs opened or coming soon, ten more are on their way to deliver better and faster care in more communities, attach people to doctors, and help take the pressure off emergency rooms.
- More personalized care through expanded Primary Care Networks: Primary Care Networks deliver more personalized and coordinated care to you – with different health care providers sharing information, data and opinions to make sure you get the best care possible. With many already in place, we'll bring this vital health care network to more BC communities.
- **Bringing health care into your home:** The Hospital at Home program we're launching as part of our COVID-19 fall preparedness plan is a blueprint for expanding e-health and tele-health services more broadly, so people can get virtual visits from doctors and nurses at home.
- **Building more hospitals and additions:** In just three years, the John Horgan NDP government has moved forward with 14 hospital construction projects. We'll continue to build and modernize hospitals around BC to deliver you the best care possible.
- **A new focus on rural communities:** Under the BC Liberals, people in rural, remote and Indigenous communities were largely ignored when it came to health care services. Our rural collaborative framework is changing that, delivering more immediate and culturally safe care closer to home.
- **Reuniting the health care team for better care:** The BC Liberals fired and contracted out housekeeping and dietary hospital workers, and long-term care aides. We're putting an end to big multinational corporations cutting corners on your care by moving to bring those valuable workers back into the public service.
- **Health care that respects and reflects our diverse province:** On the heels of our government's investigation into racism in the health care system, we are reaching out to health employers and unions to prioritize the hiring of a health care workforce that better represents the communities it serves.

REDUCING YOUR WAIT FOR CARE

Back in the days of the BC Liberals, there was a single MRI machine that was operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just three years into a John Horgan NDP government, there are now ten. That means people are getting faster care and wait times are going down. In fact, in just the first year of our MRI strategy, we've increased the number of MRIs performed each year by 45 percent – cutting wait times for this critical diagnostic service in half.

Moving forward, we'll be increasing the number of surgeries and MRIs to beyond what they were before COVID-19 by:

- **Maximizing the capacity of existing surgical and diagnostic space:** The BC Liberals had surgical rooms sitting empty too often even while people were waiting in frustration for needed surgery. We're developing new strategies to optimize surgical and diagnostic space and teams, so BC can keep pace with the demand for new surgeries and increase the number of MRIs annually – reducing people's wait for care and relief.
- **Adding four more MRI machines in the next year:** We're putting more MRIs in areas of highest remaining demand – Ridge Meadows Hospital (Maple Ridge), Langley Memorial, Vancouver General and St. Paul's, with more to come.
- **Providing the hospital staff needed to perform more surgeries and other procedures:** Our training, recruitment, certification and retention strategies will help make sure BC has the skilled health workforce to deliver care faster.

MORE DOCTORS, NURSES & HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

We know that BC needs more staff in all areas of health care: doctors, nurses, technologists, technicians and aides. We've begun the work of fixing this problem through better training, recruitment and retention – and in our first three years in office, we've seen significant gains in BC's health care workforce. But more is needed, and here's what we're committing to:

- **Launching BC's second medical school to expand our health care workforce:** This means more doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses and other health professionals trained, graduating and working right here in BC.
- **A comprehensive health care human resources strategy including credential recognition:** From doctors and nurses to long-term care aides, we will make sure BC is well-prepared to deal with future demand and pressures. In addition to expanding training in all fields of health care, we'll be improving the province's credential recognition process and licensing so that people trained in other countries can provide their skills and knowledge here in BC.

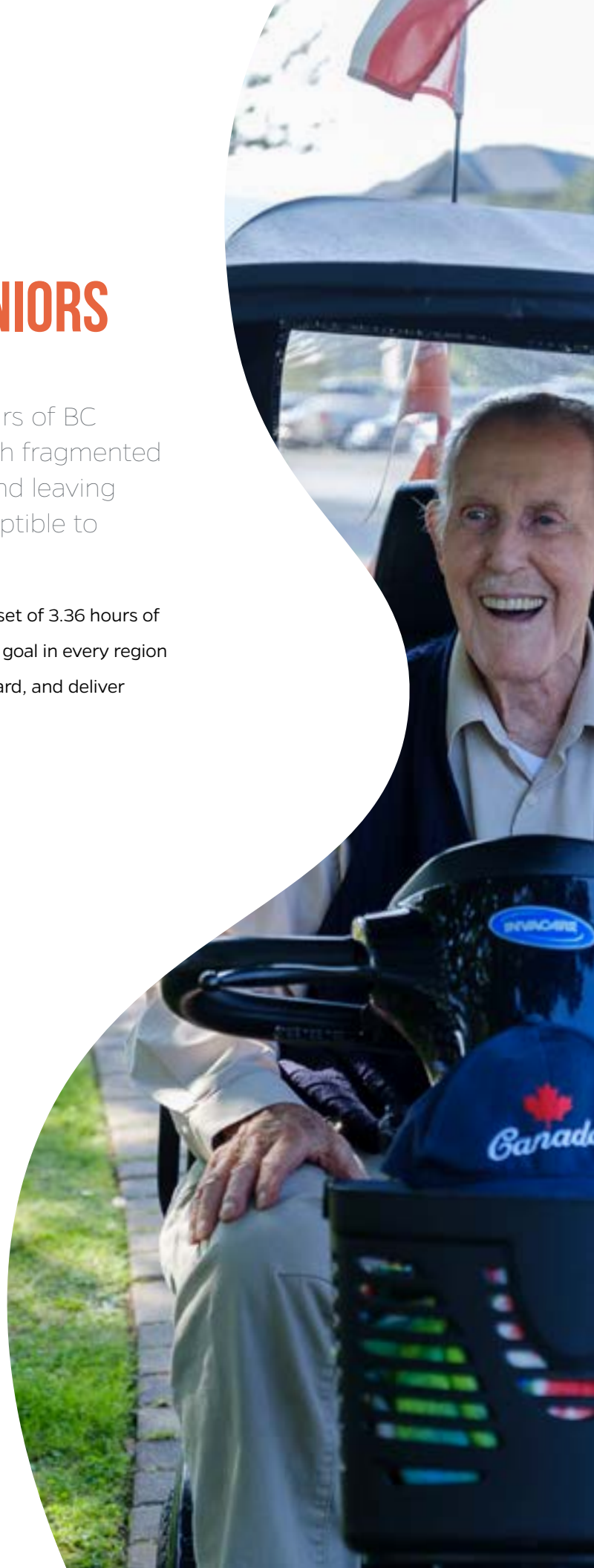


A BETTER LIFE FOR SENIORS

For BC seniors, it was a long sixteen years of BC Liberal neglect, leaving our province with fragmented and unaccountable care for seniors – and leaving long-term care centres especially susceptible to COVID-19 outbreaks

The BC Liberals were never able to meet the target they set of 3.36 hours of care per day per senior. But by 2021, we'll have met that goal in every region of the province. Now we're moving to exceed that standard, and deliver better care to seniors in BC by:

- **Keeping seniors safer in a crisis:** COVID-19 showed the cracks in long-term care caused by 16 years of BC Liberal neglect. We responded to the outbreaks by delivering stability for front-line workers and, in turn, better care for seniors. We'll make sure long-term care remains robust, well-funded, and able to quickly respond to a crisis.
- **Hiring 7,000 new health care workers in long-term care and assisted living:** In addition to bringing back the long-term care jobs that were privatized by the BC Liberals, we're investing \$44 million to hire and train 7,000 new health care workers for long-term care homes and assisted living facilities. This Health Career Access Program will provide new opportunities for workers who lost their jobs in other sectors due to COVID-19.



- **Delivering better care for seniors through a better deal for workers:** Keeping trained, qualified staff is critical for providing better care. We will develop a staffing retention strategy that provides workers in long-term care and assisted living with “levelled up wages” even after the pandemic ends, and restore provincial standards for wages, benefits, and working conditions that were cut by the BC Liberals.
- **Building better, public long-term care homes:** The BC Liberals doled out hundreds of millions to for-profit corporations to create new care homes – and it failed miserably, with four of those care homes put under public administration for failing to provide required levels of care. We’re working with non-profits to build public care homes that keep seniors safer, healthier and more comfortable.
- **Making sure private operators deliver better care:** For-profit care home operators failed to deliver more than 200,000 hours of care they were paid by the public to provide. We’re putting care before profit through new requirements that will make sure private operators are more transparent and accountable for the public funding they get.
- **Improving home care for safe, independent living:** We’ll expand publicly funded home care to provide better care and help with daily living – bathing, dressing, meal preparation and more – so that people can stay in their own homes for as long as is safely possible. It will also improve continuity of care with seniors receiving visits from a more consistent group of care aides.
- **Launching a Silver Alert system:** Working with community groups and the BC Seniors Advocate, we will develop a made-in-BC Silver Alert system to help assist first responders locate missing seniors, particularly those with dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.



A 10-YEAR CANCER CARE PLAN TO GET AND KEEP YOU HEALTHY

Working with BC Cancer and BC's health authorities, John Horgan's NDP government will make British Columbia a leader in cancer care by launching a 10-year cancer care action plan built around:

- An anywhere/anytime commitment so that all cancer care patients get information and care when they need it, including in rural communities.
- Providing more individualized care for cancer patients, including dedicated teams providing a full continuum of care.
- Improving that continuum of care by investing in new equipment, systems and procedures that deliver leading-edge prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment services.
- Expanding and funding enhanced research and diagnostic capabilities, allowing health professionals to improve the precision of disease risk prediction, prevention, diagnostics and treatment.

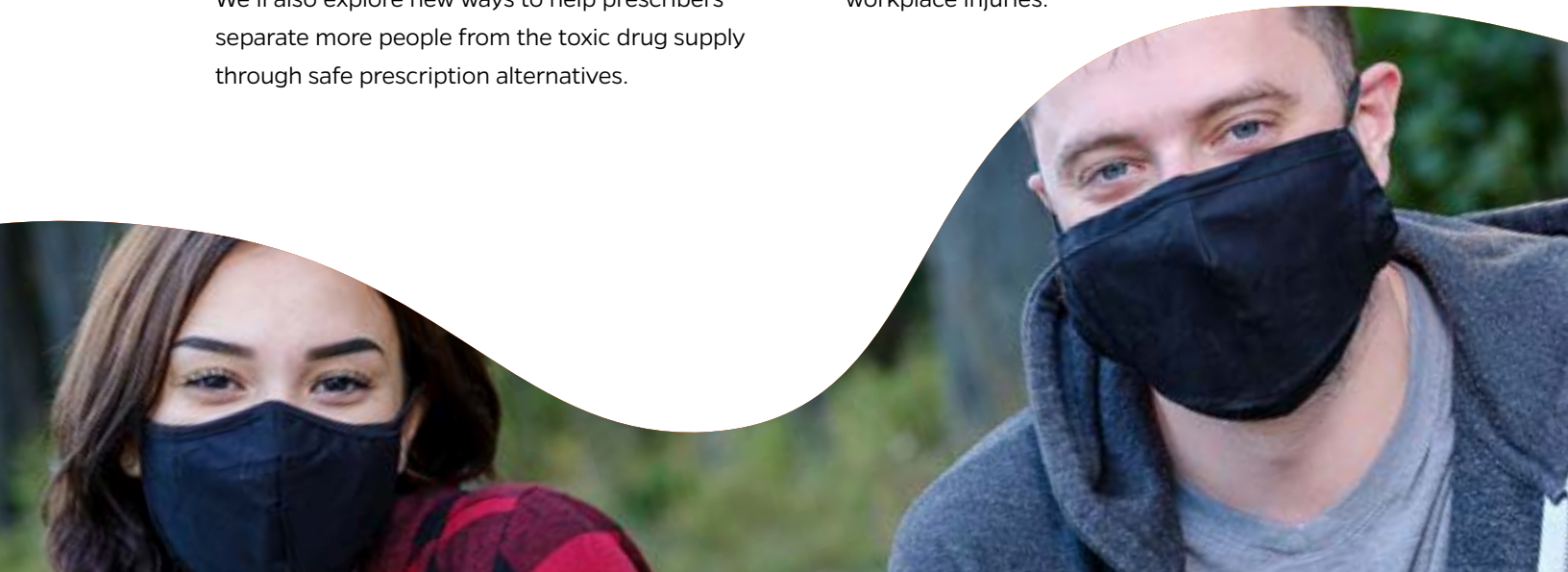
SAVING LIVES, HEALING PAIN


The pain is felt in every part of this province. The pain of lives impacted by mental health challenges or the grip of addiction.

It's why our government, on day one, created a Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, the only one of its kind in Canada. Because we knew that while there are so many dedicated front-line workers out there doing their best every day to help people, they needed more complete and structured support and resources to deliver ongoing, coordinated care.

Building on the start we've made, we will:

- **Scale up BC's response to the opioid crisis:** Before COVID-19 hit, BC had its first drop in the rate of overdose deaths since 2012. As we now deal with two public health emergencies, we will keep accelerating BC's response across the full continuum of care: prevention, harm reduction, safe prescription medications, treatment, and recovery.
- **Crack down on the toxic drug supply:** We'll free up police to focus on serious crime in BC communities, including cracking down on those who distribute toxic drugs on the streets. We'll also explore new ways to help prescribers separate more people from the toxic drug supply through safe prescription alternatives.
- **Fast-track move toward decriminalization:** We'll work with police chiefs to push Ottawa to decriminalize simple possession of small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use, or develop a made-in-BC solution that will help save lives.
- **Develop better options for chronic work-related pain:** In partnership with WorkSafeBC, we'll identify new ways of improving pain management practices for injured workers – and mandate WorkSafeBC to provide treatment on demand to those with chronic pain as a result of workplace injuries.





As part of our 10-year Pathway to Hope mental health plan, we will:

- **Expand the availability of treatment beds for people:** We will build new treatment, recovery, detox and after-care facilities across the province, including in communities with an expressed need such as Maple Ridge, with some beds specifically for British Columbians under age 24. We will also step up oversight of recovery homes and other private treatment providers to ensure quality care, accountability, and value for money.
- **Focus new mental health initiatives on kids and young adults:** We've developed an initial mental health approach that focuses on addressing problems early, before they become too big. Moving forward, we'll establish successful Foundry youth centres in more communities and dedicated mental health teams in school districts.
- **Develop Complex Care housing:** We'll provide an increased level of support – including more access to nurses and psychiatrists – for BC's most vulnerable who need more intensive care than supportive housing provides, including in places like the Riverview lands in Coquitlam.
- **Expand access to counselling:** By investing in new e-health and other technologies, we can bring mental health care to more people in all regions of BC – reducing counselling costs for people in rural and remote communities, in particular, because access to care shouldn't depend on the size of your bank account.



MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE

In three years, we've taken bold steps to make health care more affordable. From eliminating MSP premiums (the largest middle class tax cut in BC history) to making prescriptions free or low cost for almost a quarter-million families, to removing age restrictions for coverage of expensive insulin pumps for people with Type-1 diabetes.

All of this is saving many British Columbians thousands of dollars a year. While the BC Liberals have opposed many of the steps we've taken, we'll keep working to make health care more affordable for you by:

- **Fighting for a national pharmacare program while enhancing Fair Pharmacare:** We will continually review cost thresholds and drug eligibility with the goal of bringing the cost of prescription drugs down for you.
- **Making contraception free:** Cost should not prevent individuals, particularly young people, from their right to make choices about their reproductive health. While condoms can be easily found for little or no cost, and vasectomies are covered under MSP, prescription contraception is not covered. It's time to make contraception free for all.

AFFORDABILITY & SECURITY



AFFORDABILITY & SECURITY IN YOUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

The suddenness of COVID-19 has made all of us appreciate the idea of home more than ever. More than it already was, it became a place of safety, of recovery, and for many of us an often-chaotic mix of work, play, child care and much more. For a few months, everything in your life happened in your home – proving again that your home, in turn, is everything.

Over its first three years, John Horgan's NDP government worked to build more homes, make them more affordable whether you own or rent, make your neighbourhoods safer and healthier, and create improved access to the public services you need to truly make your community a home.

Many of the investments we've made – large, small or somewhere in the middle – have been aimed at fixing 16 years of neglect and service cuts by the former BC Liberal government. We've made a good start, and we're ready to keep making life more affordable and secure for everyone in BC.

A RECOVERY BENEFIT FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS

We're helping ease the financial impact of COVID-19 for people in British Columbia who have been hit the hardest.



MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

We're making it easier for you to find a home you can afford. The next four years are critical to the success of our 10-year Homes For BC plan to build and revitalize affordable homes for everyone from students to seniors.

BETTER ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

The investments we've made in child care are saving families up to \$19,000 a year. Next up in our 10-year ChildCareBC plan is bringing universal \$10-a-day child care to more families.

BETTER LEARNING FOR BC STUDENTS

After years of BC Liberal underfunding, schools, teachers, education assistants and support staff are now getting the resources they need to give students the education they deserve.

MOVING YOU AROUND FASTER & MORE AFFORDABLY

With help already underway through our Economic Recovery Plan, we're focused on new action to help BC businesses grow and hire.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE, PROTECTING NATURE

The next few years are critical in moving BC to cleaner energy and reduced climate pollution through our CleanBC plan – while taking new steps to protect more of BC’s unique natural heritage.

MOVING TOWARDS GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

BC became the first province to enshrine the United Nations’ Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in law – we’ll now move forward together to further self-determination.

EQUALITY, INCLUSION & HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR EVERYONE.

While BC Liberal MLAs continue to fight against inclusion and equality, we’re bringing back human rights protection and making BC a leader in LGBTQ2S+ recognition and rights.

SAFER, CARING & HEALTHIER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Whether it’s safer streets or helping protect you from mass floods, we’re putting in place the plans to make BC communities safer, more caring and healthier.



A RECOVERY BENEFIT FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS

Providing \$1,000 to people who've been hit hardest by COVID-19: The pandemic has caused so much pain and hardship for so many people in British Columbia. In a province with a good economy, we're fortunate that so many have been able to navigate their way through the financial impacts. But for others, the financial stress is felt every day.

The BC Liberals' answer is to provide tax cuts – but those are proven to help people at the top while making everyone else pay for them through cuts to public services. And those public services are needed now more than ever.

Instead, many of the actions the John Horgan government has taken in our Restart and Economic Recovery plans are helping people find the training and job opportunities to get back on a better financial footing. And to help provide more immediate relief, we will provide:

- A one-time \$1,000 direct deposit to families whose household income is under \$125,000 annually – with a sliding scale up to \$175,000.
- A one-time \$500 direct deposit to single people earning less than \$62,000 annually – with a sliding scale up to \$87,000.

MAKING HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE & AVAILABLE

Whether you rent or own, you're looking for more availability, greater security and better affordability. But the BC Liberals made that harder for so many years, by allowing speculators and money launderers to drive up the cost of housing, putting profits for big developers ahead of building housing everyday people could afford, and neglecting the safety and security of existing co-op rental housing.

John Horgan and the BC NDP are turning that around. As part of our 10-year Homes For BC plan, we've already built tens of thousands of affordable rental and supportive homes for people, we're fixing up BC's existing stock of social housing, and through our Speculation and Vacancy tax – which the BC Liberals would eliminate – we've turned thousands of empty units into new rental homes.

And here's where our Homes For BC plan will take us in the next few years:

- **Freezing rents to the end of 2021 and capping increases after that:** To make life more affordable for renters – particularly during the hardship caused by COVID-19 – we will freeze rents until the end of 2021. After that, the action we took to limit rent increases to the rate of inflation will be made permanent.
- **Providing a renter's rebate:** We will bring in an income-tested renter's rebate of \$400 a year for households earning up to \$80,000 annually that are not already receiving other rental support.
- **Reducing construction costs to make homes more affordable:** By bringing down costs for developers, we can bring down the cost of housing for people. We'll streamline and modernize housing construction by eliminating outdated parking minimums in projects close to public transit, develop a single-window provincial permitting process, and work with communities to streamline approval processes at the local level.
- **Controlling the rising cost of strata insurance:** We've begun tackling this problem already by closing loopholes in strata insurance and beefing up regulatory powers – and tasked the BC Financial Services Authority to investigate and find new ways to help bring insurance costs down. If rates have not corrected by the end of 2021, we will develop a public strata insurance option, similar to Saskatchewan.



- **Continuing to deliver a steady supply of new affordable homes:** For years, when housing-related revenues were soaring, BC Liberal government investments in affordable public housing fell short. The resulting lack of affordable housing has hurt people, communities, and our economy. Our government has started to turn that around, with more than 25,000 affordable homes – including co-op housing – complete or underway across the province in just three years. But there is more work to do. At stake in this election is our 10-year housing plan, and the 114,000 new, affordable housing it's bringing to tens of thousands of British Columbians. We will continue rolling out our Homes For BC plan, the largest investment in affordable housing in our province's history.
- **Providing more homes for Indigenous people in BC :** We will deliver the remaining units in our \$550 million commitment to building 1,750 new homes, both on- and off-reserve – and pressure the federal government to do its share in providing urgent housing for Indigenous people.
- **Getting more affordable housing built through Housing Hub partnerships:** Through the Housing Hub we launched in 2018, we'll provide additional low-interest loans to add tens of thousands more homes for middle-income families. We'll expand the role of this innovative team to partner with non-profit and co-op housing providers to acquire and preserve existing rental housing. We'll also instruct the Housing Hub to look for new pathways to home ownership through rent-to-own or other equity-building programs.
- **Building more supportive housing:** With 2,800 units of supportive housing already built in just a few years, we'll increase that total to at least 5,000 units through our 10-year Homes For BC plan – helping to curb existing encampments and prevent new encampments from being created.
- **New rent supplements for people moving on from supportive housing:** We will provide rent supplements for residents of supportive housing who are ready to move on to independent living – freeing up space in existing supportive housing

BETTER ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CHILD CARE

For so many young families, our ChildCareBC plan has made all the difference in the world. Three years ago, families already hit with high housing and other monthly costs were in a bind – they needed two incomes to keep their families safe and healthy, but they either couldn't find or afford the child care needed for both parents to be working.

The BC Liberals couldn't understand that dilemma when they were government, and they haven't seemed to learn since then – with one of their MLAs calling child care “harmful” to children and suggesting that mothers just stay home with the kids.

Our plan is expanding opportunities for parents and families by saving families up to \$19,000 a year in child care costs, while also building more public child care spaces. The path is set. And a John Horgan NDP government will continue making great strides down that path toward universal child care, including:

- **Protecting child care in law:** Much in the way that legislation was introduced to enshrine the concept of universal health care, we will protect the principles of affordable, accessible, and inclusive quality child care in legislation.
- **Bringing \$10-a-day child care to more families:** Our focus on affordability for families has already led to 32,700 families paying \$10-a-day or less on child care for their kids. Partnering with the federal government, we will expand the number of \$10-a-day child care spaces while enhancing our other affordability measures – delivering savings of thousands of dollars each month to help families get ahead.
- **More spaces through a new child care capital program:** We will exceed our target of 22,000 new child care spaces by expanding our child care capital program and modular strategy for child care. When government builds a new school, housing complex or other projects we will work to ensure child care is included in their capital plans.



- **More convenient and secure child care at your local school:** A John Horgan NDP government will work towards providing universal access to before- and after-school care on school grounds so parents know their children are safe at one place for the full work day.
- **More convenient child care options for working parents:** Through new partnerships with crown corporations, universities, local governments, First Nations, and public and private sector employers, we will work to make sure new office/ business construction and upgrades will include space for child care centres, so that more parents can access needed child care at their places of work.
- **Training and keeping more early learning educators:** We'll make sure Early Childhood Educators (ECE) are a well-supported profession, just like teachers and other professionals who work in BC's education system. We will continue to implement and enhance the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy which includes expanding our successful ECE wage enhancement program.
- **Integrating child care into the broader learning environment:** To make sure child care is brought formally into the learning timeline, we will move responsibility for child care to the Ministry of Education. It will oversee delivery of all child care initiatives and funding, manage a capital investment program to build more new spaces, and ensure quality care through ongoing curriculum enhancements.

BETTER LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD

These past three years have been about making up ground after all the damage done by the old government – when BC saw increasing classroom sizes, less support for students with special needs, inadequate resources, and not enough teachers, education assistants and support staff.

Under our approach, schools – and the people who work and learn in them – are now getting the support they need. More teachers. More education assistants. And over 100 new schools, expansions or major upgrades.

There's no question that COVID-19 is the biggest challenge our schools have faced. But with the support and input of public health officials, parents, teachers, school districts and the staff that work in our schools, we are overcoming the COVID-19 obstacles.

We'll keep making learning better for all BC students by:

- **Keeping kids safe during the pandemic:** We'll continue to make classrooms safer through the installation of new ventilation systems, plexiglass barriers in key areas of the school, comprehensive cleaning stations, and by ensuring more hours of cleaning in all schools.
- **Putting a focus on mental health in schools:** We're building on our investment into mental health supports for students and staff, and are committed to better supporting children and youth with special needs and their families, so everyone involved in our kids' learning gets the help they need.
- **Fast-tracking improvements to online and remote learning:** We'll invest in more computers and tablets, more training for teachers and support staff, and in new ways to improve social e-learning that promotes group interactions between students and teachers.
- **Continuing the largest modernization of schools in BC's history:** We'll continue the largest investment of schools in BC's history – with a focus on meeting seismic requirements and climate change and energy efficiency standards as set out in our CleanBC plan.



- **Bringing in local food programs in partnership with school districts:** To help make sure students are properly fed for learning, we'll work with school districts to help create local school meal programs based on district data and priorities. And just like with the hospital food program we created, we'll integrate FeedBC into this plan so that districts can include locally grown food.
- **Taking the fundraising burden off parents:** We'll continue to take the pressure off parents to fundraise while giving students safe, accessible playgrounds by expanding our Playground Fund to more schools.
- **Making sure classrooms have the resources they need:** We will deliver targeted investments to help make sure students have the classroom supplies they need to succeed, so parents and teachers don't have to pay the full cost out-of-pocket.

MOVING YOU AROUND FASTER & MORE AFFORDABLY

Work, appointments, errands – whatever the reason for moving around your community, we know that it's been costing you too much time and money. For you to have a better quality of life, that has to change.

We started to fix things by tackling the biggest problem our government encountered in its first term: the mess created by the BC Liberals at ICBC. The Liberals were using ICBC as their private ATM, draining more than a billion dollars out of the corporation to make their provincial budgets look better – money that should have been given back to drivers.

We've also expanded transit options for people, brought down the cost of electric vehicles through CleanBC rebates, and created a made-in-BC bus solution when Greyhound ceased service for people in the north.

But there's much more left to do, and in the coming years we'll be:

- **Making car insurance more affordable:** By moving ICBC to a new enhanced care model, we will reduce premiums by an average of 20 percent, while increasing the care available for people who are seriously injured in accidents.
- **Delivering a fair deal to BC drivers:** Provide COVID-19 premium rebates to BC drivers from any surplus ICBC delivers during the pandemic.
- **Making BC Ferries work better for you:** We will make BC Ferries more accountable to the people it serves and reset its priorities around you. That means having it improve service at peak time, allocate more space to reservations and allow walk-on reservations, and coordinate with BC Transit and Translink to align scheduling and provide a more seamless passenger experience.



- **Helping families get around with free transit up to and including age 12:** We want to make it easier and more affordable for families to move about. That's why we'll make transit (Translink and BC Transit) throughout the province free for kids up to and including age 12.
- **Expanding transit options for people in growing areas of the province:** This includes increased connections within the Translink network for people living in the Fraser Valley and the Sea-to-Sky region, expanded West Coast Express service, and more service for the successful BC Bus North program for rural communities.
- **Widening the Fraser Highway to ease congestion:** This is a critical transportation link for people from Abbotsford to Surrey – we will modernize and widen it with a completion date of 2026.
- **Improving connections to Surrey and Langley:** We'll work with communities to complete the Skytrain expansion project and add new rail and rapid bus lines.
- **Delivering better transit for the South Island:** We will implement the South Island Transportation Strategy, and provide more active transportation infrastructure, rapid bus service to the West Shore, and safety upgrades to the Malahat highway.
- **Planning for future clean transit projects with long-lasting economic benefits:** We'll work with communities and regions to support planning and development of key projects, like high-speed transit links for the North Shore and the expansion of rail up the Fraser Valley – bringing cleaner transit and more construction jobs for BC workers.
- **Promoting cleaner communities and better health through active transportation:** We'll work with communities to expand their networks of active transportation as we move towards our CleanBC goal of doubling trips taken via walking, biking and other kinds of active networks by the year 2030.

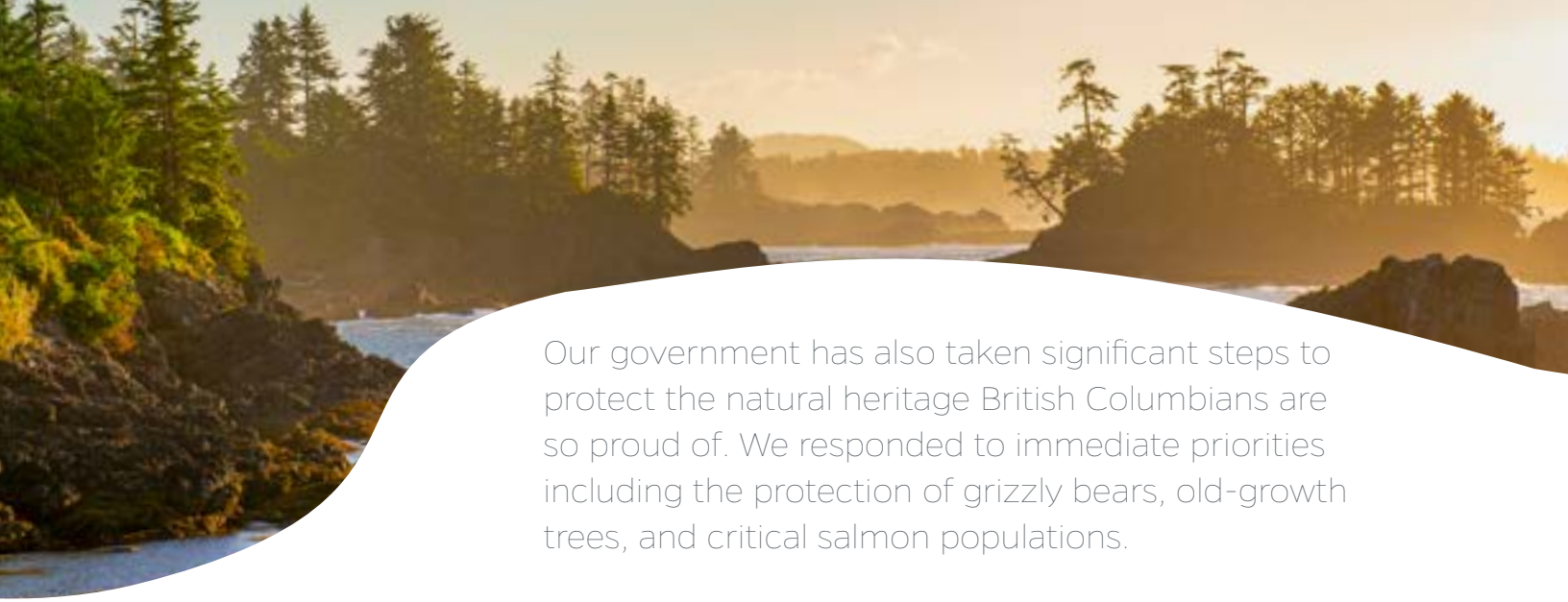
TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE, PROTECTING NATURE

There's nothing more important than taking care of the place we call home – the air, land and water that makes British Columbia such a good place to live, work and raise a family.

That's why our CleanBC strategy – launched in 2018 to tackle climate change – is so critical to the future of our province and our planet. In the coming years, moving forward ambitiously with the next stages of CleanBC is equally as critical. Our kids can't afford stalling or setting back the progress we're making – because no one wants a future routinely marred by massive forest fires, perennial floods, and air and water that makes us sick.

As part of CleanBC, we're making it more affordable for people to be a part of the clean-energy solution by:

- **Making electric vehicles more affordable for more people:** We'll provide a new income-tested incentive on new and used zero-emission vehicles to get more people into the electric vehicle rebate program, regardless of their income.
- **Increasing public vehicle charging availability:** We will expand home and workplace charging through increased incentives and 'right-to-charge' legislation that gets charging infrastructure into more strata and apartment buildings.
- **Making e-bikes more affordable:** To help more people make the switch to active transportation, we will remove the PST on e-bikes.



Our government has also taken significant steps to protect the natural heritage British Columbians are so proud of. We responded to immediate priorities including the protection of grizzly bears, old-growth trees, and critical salmon populations.

And with CleanBC on its path to creating a more sustainable, clean-energy future, we'll keep investing in BC's unique natural heritage:

- **Creating better camping experiences for your family:** We will expand BC's popular provincial parks by creating new campgrounds, trails, and protected areas while increasing funding to improve infrastructure and protect park ecosystems.
- **Banning single-use plastics:** A John Horgan NDP government will begin the phase-out of single use plastics province wide – helping to create a healthier home and planet.
- **Increasing the protection of BC's cherished wildlife and habitats:** We will work with neighbouring jurisdictions to cooperatively develop and invest in new strategies aimed at better protecting our shared wildlife and habitat corridors.
- **Protecting more of BC's old-growth forests:** In collaboration with Indigenous leaders, labour, industry, and environmental groups, we will implement recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review to protect further old-growth stands – in addition to the 353,000 hectares we protected in September.
- **Protecting clean water for now and tomorrow:** We will protect clean water in British Columbia by creating a watershed security strategy to plan, manage and protect local watersheds for the public good – while making sure BC gets fair rates for the bulk sale of water moving forward.
- **Creating local projects and jobs protecting water:** As part of the strategy above, we will seek a partnership with the federal government to establish a Watershed Security Fund to fund Indigenous, local, and regionally led clean water initiatives – and create good, sustainable, local jobs for British Columbians in watershed restoration, monitoring, technology, training, and education.
- **Making polluters pay for cleanup of abandoned projects:** We'll make sure owners of large industrial projects are bonded moving forward, so that they – and not BC taxpayers – pay the full cost of environmental cleanup if their projects are abandoned.

MOVING TOWARDS GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

One of the proudest moments of our government's first three years in office came in late 2019, when BC became the first province to enshrine the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in law.

This legislation was developed and introduced in partnership with Indigenous leadership from the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. John Horgan and the NDP have continued – and will continue – to move forward in the spirit of partnership and reconciliation, because the work we do today builds a lasting legacy.

Our path together will continue, including:

- **Moving further towards long-term agreements that provide greater self-determination:**

The Province's relationship with Indigenous peoples will continue to move from short-term transactional arrangements to long-term agreements that recognize and support reconciliation, self-determination, and economic independence.

- **Partnering with Indigenous peoples through evolving shared decision making:** The 2019 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act has set the table for more meaningful shared decision making. As we move forward with key decisions on regional land and resource use allocation, we will partner with First Nations, providing a clear, stable and sustainable path for everyone to work together.

- **Extending BC's support for cultural preservation and revitalization:** We will extend our funding for key projects designed to preserve and respect Indigenous cultures – including the retention and revitalization of First Nations languages, putting additional languages into BC's curriculum, and reflecting Indigenous peoples' history and cultures in provincial parks and wilderness areas.
- **Connecting urban Indigenous peoples to their home communities:** We will expand our support of Aboriginal Friendship Centres that serve the needs of local Indigenous communities while playing a vital role in connecting urban Indigenous peoples from across the province to their home communities.
- **Improving Indigenous input on provincial policy and legislation:** In consultation and cooperation with Indigenous leadership, our government will create a dedicated Secretariat to ensure new legislation and policies are consistent with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

EQUALITY, INCLUSION AND HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR EVERYONE.

British Columbians believe in the protection and expansion of human rights. And that's why we all should be concerned about a troubling trend in the history of human rights advocacy in this province: Every time an NDP government establishes a Human Rights Commission, the BC Liberals (and its predecessor, Social Credit) dismantle it when they're elected. It happened in 1983 and again in 2002 – this last time leaving BC as the only province without a Commission.

John Horgan and the NDP re-established the Human Rights Commission in 2018, and now it – and so many other steps we've taken to protect the rights of everyone in BC – are again at stake in this election.



We are committed to building on our record by:

- **Closing the gender pay gap:** We will continue to address systemic discrimination in the workplace and move closer to equal pay for equal work through new pay transparency legislation.
- **Bringing forward legislation to help reduce systemic discrimination:** We will work with BC's new Human Rights Commissioner and other stakeholders to introduce legislation that paves the way for race-based data collection essential to modernizing sectors like policing, health care and education.
- **Delivering a new law to take on racism:** With BC's Multiculturalism Act now 25 years old, we will conduct a full review of anti-racism laws in other jurisdictions and launch a full stakeholder consultation leading to a new Anti-Racism Act that better serves everyone in BC
- **Ensuring better representation in the public sector:** To create a more representative public sector, we will support increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour) representation within government and set targets for IBPOC representation in the public sector.



- **Increasing immigrants' participation in the workplace:** We'll streamline foreign credential assessments processed by various regulatory bodies and health-related Colleges to make sure immigrants can more easily strengthen their language skills and access job opportunities in their field of training.
- **Creating a more welcoming province:** We'll provide a one-stop-shop for newcomers and the settlement sector to advocate in Victoria for key issues related to immigrant integration, policy, and services.
- **Delivering a comprehensive approach to period poverty:** Through the work of so many around the province, BC has become a global leader in the fight to end period poverty. We'll support that work by creating a multi-sectoral Period Poverty Task Force to develop a long-term response to period poverty in BC.
- **Launch a plan to help end gender-based violence:** We will develop an action plan to end gender-based violence, including: minimum standards for sexual assault response; more training for police, crown council, and justices; establishing core funding for sexual assault centres; and more.
- **Carrying out a modernization of the Police Act:** Based on recommendations of the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, we will modernize the Police Act, with priorities on: tackling systemic racism, creating a dedicated hate crime unit within local police forces, and reviewing training and procedures related to 'wellness checks'.
- **Building a new South Asian-Canadian museum:** We'll embark on a project to create a first-of-its-kind museum to document the history, art and contributions of South Asian people in BC
- **Honouring the Japanese-Canadian community:** We'll provide lasting recognition of the traumatic internment of more than 22,000 Japanese-Canadians during World War II in libraries, communities and at the BC Legislature.

SAFER, CARING & HEALTHIER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Safe neighbourhoods and communities can mean different things to different people. In urban areas, it's about making city streets safer from illegal drugs and violence; in many rural communities, priority is put on preventing damage from wildfires and floods. And wherever you live, it's about helping bring housing to those who are homeless in British Columbia and taking care of the people in our communities.

That's why we cast the net wide in bringing direct help to communities throughout BC, and will continue this work in the years to come:

- **Creating opportunities for people living in poverty:** Based on our 10-year Poverty Reduction Plan and the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Basic Income coming later this year, we will determine the best approach and path-forward to reducing poverty long-term and providing opportunities for jobs and skills training through our Economic Recovery Plan.
- **Increasing food security for people in need:** We will increase our supports to food banks and develop program partnerships with grocery stores and not-for-profits – such as Quest and The Mustard Seed – to develop discounted food market, food recovery, and redistribution programs.
- **Opening doors to opportunity and participation through accessibility legislation:** We will work with people across the province to develop and bring in comprehensive accessibility legislation.
- **Supporting police to focus on serious crime and safer neighbourhoods:** To better support communities and local police forces, we'll invest more in community-based mental health and social services so there are more trained front-line workers to help people in crisis.
- **Keeping our streets safer from gangs and guns:** We will introduce legislation to improve information sharing for law enforcement agencies, regulate imitation firearms, strengthen regulation of shooting ranges, and close regulatory gaps.



- **Supporting communities to address street disorder and public safety concerns:** We'll continue to fund mental health intervention teams like the six new Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams recently announced for communities experiencing increased challenges with vulnerable residents.
- **Strengthening local communities' ability to respond to crises:** Through our new community safety fund, local governments can apply for funding to help them tackle street disorder, cleanliness, and public safety – and strengthen their ability to respond to challenges posed to businesses and neighbourhoods by increased visible homelessness as a result of the pandemic.
- **Expanding the ability of communities to keep people safer:** A handful of BC communities have already begun connecting front-line workers from different health, safety, and social service sectors to identify and help vulnerable people before a traumatic personal event takes place. We'll work with interested communities to expand this successful model.
- **Working with Indigenous communities to improve access to culturally appropriate justice:** For too long, Indigenous people have been over-represented in the criminal justice system – and vastly under-represented in terms of roles and responsibilities within that system. We're working with the BC First Nations Justice Council in establishing Indigenous Justice Centres across the province to provide services that include legal advice and representation, advocacy and support in dealing with police and provincial agencies, and restorative justice.
- **Updating emergency procedures and infrastructure to keep our province safer:** From wildfires to, now, COVID-19, British Columbia's emergency preparedness resources are being stretched further and further. We will work with communities to identify holes in existing emergency response procedures and resources, with the goal of updating and future-proofing our province-wide ability to respond to crises.

GOOD JOBS & LIVELIHOODS IN A CLEAN-ENERGY FUTURE



GOOD JOBS & LIVELIHOODS IN A CLEAN-ENERGY FUTURE

Now is the time to build an economy that works for everyone.

The economic impacts of COVID-19 must serve as a wake-up call for all of us, because it's demonstrated clearly just how unbalanced our economy is – the rich seem to be getting richer while everyday people carry on under the stress of how to make it to the next month.

British Columbians have told us that, as we all work to rebuild BC's economy, we can't go back to the way things were – because that just wasn't working for too many people. BC needs an economy that works for the public good, and this is the moment to make that pivot.

Have a look at what our economic plan will bring to British Columbia.

AN ECONOMY THAT BENEFITS EVERYONE

While the BC Liberals continue to advocate for people at the top, John Horgan and the NDP are working to create an economy where everyone can get ahead.

A CLEAN-ENERGY ECONOMY & FUTURE

Our plan will help British Columbians build an economy that respects our province and planet, securing a clean future in the communities we love.



A STRONG FUTURE FOR RESOURCE WORKERS & COMMUNITIES

We are working with industries, communities, First Nations and workers to revitalize and modernize the industries that have helped build our province.

BECOMING A GLOBAL PRODUCER OF LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS & SERVICES

We're moving BC to the forefront of meeting the global demand for products and services that will reduce emissions and help protect our planet.

PROMOTING THE STRENGTHS OF BC'S SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES

With help already underway through our Economic Recovery Plan, we're focused on new action to help BC businesses grow and hire.

TRAINING FOR A CHANGING ECONOMY

After eliminating interest on student loans and bringing back student grants, we're continuing to make post-secondary education, training and apprenticeships more affordable and available.

HELPING WORKERS STAY SAFE AND GET AHEAD

BC workers are front-and-centre in our government's new Economic Recovery Plan, and we'll continue to bring forward improved rights and benefits for all working people.

AN ECONOMY THAT BENEFITS EVERYONE

How is it that Canada's 20 richest people saw their wealth grow by \$37 billion during the pandemic while so many people at the other end of the wage scale have been forced to struggle with the financial consequences of COVID-19?

It's time to make a change. The old way – and the BC Liberals' answer to practically everything – is to provide tax breaks. But it's been shown over and over that those tax breaks benefit the people at the top, and leave you paying for it through big cuts to the public services you count on.

British Columbians deserve a better path forward.

Our government moved further down that path in September when we launched StrongerBC, our

economic recovery plan that delivers key targeted investments aimed at helping people get back to work, businesses to hire and grow, and communities to begin moving forward again – building an economy for the public good.

But our recovery plan is just one step. We are bringing forward a sustained, powerful stimulus program that will drive growth, investment, and more opportunities for everyone in British Columbia.

- **Investing an additional 1% of GDP in people and communities:**

A new Recovery Investment Fund will deliver about \$3 billion a year – above and beyond our existing \$23 billion in new capital commitments over three years – to drive new growth and investment. The funding will be used in communities all over the province to build new schools, hospitals, child care spaces, roads and transit, and more – creating an expected 18,000 new jobs every year.

- **Delivering local jobs and community benefits:** Public projects should benefit local workers and their communities. So wherever possible, we will attach our Community Benefits Agreement (CBAs) to projects launched through the Recovery Investment Fund. Through CBAs, we're providing good jobs, fair wages, and skills training to qualified local workers – particularly those who have traditionally been under-represented in the workforce.

A CLEAN-ENERGY ECONOMY & FUTURE

No matter where you live in British Columbia, you want to make sure you and your family can make a good living and enjoy a good life in the community you've chosen for your home. Above all else, you want a secure future – for today, and for your kids and grandkids in the years ahead.

And you're not asking for too much.

That's why we launched CleanBC in 2018. It's our plan to move British Columbia towards a clean-energy economy and future that drastically cut the harmful emissions causing climate change. As part of – and adding to – CleanBC, John Horgan and the NDP will:

- **Commit BC to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050:** CleanBC currently sets a target of reducing emissions by 40 percent by 2030. To complete the task, we will pass legislation requiring BC to reach net-zero by 2050 – meaning there are either no harmful carbon emissions or they are offset by natural carbon sinks, carbon capture or other technologies.
- **Invest in made-in-BC carbon capture technology:** British Columbia entrepreneurs have already started the research and development work to prevent carbon emissions from polluting the atmosphere. We will support that work with strategic investments to further our net-zero emissions goal.
- **Require greener buildings:** We are already requiring new buildings and retrofits to be more energy efficient and cleaner – every new building constructed in BC must be net-zero ready by 2032. We will take the next step by empowering local governments to set their own carbon pollution performance standards for new buildings. And we will require realtors to provide energy efficiency information on listed homes to incent energy-saving upgrades and let purchasers know what energy bills they will face.



- **Accelerate energy efficiency retrofits beginning now:** We will spur more energy-efficiency upgrades with programs and incentives for both residential and commercial buildings – including PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) financing that allows homeowners to take out loans for efficiency upgrades and pay them back over time through annual property taxes.
- **Expand CleanBC and our zero-emissions vehicle program to industrial vehicles:** With heavy vehicles being a large and growing source of harmful emissions, it's essential we move now to green-up BC industrial transportation. We will expand CleanBC's SUVI program to get more trucks, buses, ports, airports, and marine vessels off fossil fuels.
- **Move towards a net-zero emission bus fleet:** We will accelerate the move towards a provincial fleet powered by electrification, hydrogen fuel cell technologies, and other zero-emissions technologies.
- **Ramp up CleanBC's industrial emissions strategy:** We'll provide additional funding for our CleanBC industrial emissions strategy so that more mines, pulp mills, oil and gas processing plants, and other industrial facilities can reduce harmful emissions and move to cleaner operations.
- **Employ best-in-the-world emission detection:** To make sure our reduction goals are being met, we'll employ world-leading regulations and technologies to detect and reduce harmful methane emissions.
- **Fast-track our industrial electrification strategy:** By working with the federal government and BC Hydro, we can expand electrification infrastructure to make it easier for industries to go green.
- **Reviewing royalties from an environmental lens:** We will conduct a comprehensive review of oil and natural gas royalty credits.

A STRONG FUTURE FOR RESOURCE WORKERS & COMMUNITIES

The shift we're making to an economy that puts the public good first will benefit all parts of the province. Our Recovery Investment Fund will touch every community in the province, bringing needed infrastructure projects – like hospitals, schools, roads and more – and creating thousands of jobs every year.

Now it's time to go further. Working together with communities, resource industries, First Nations, and workers, we can revitalize resource communities, get more value from our resources, and create a path to a better future.

- **More opportunities and sustained growth through an industrial and manufacturing strategy:** Working alongside CleanBC, our commitment to reconciliation, the Recovery Investment Fund, and other major initiatives will be this strategy – aimed at delivering smart, distributed industrial and manufacturing activity and growth to all parts of the province.
- **Maximizing government support for workers and communities:** We will establish a new Worker Training & Job Opportunity Office to maximize the impact of our Economic Recovery Plan for workers and communities during COVID-19 and beyond – with a focus on retraining workers, supporting resource communities facing job loss, developing higher value goods, and accessing new global markets and opportunities for BC products.



Image ?

- **More logs for job creators:** Working with industry and labour, we will dedicate a specific portion of the annual allowable cut towards higher value producers who can demonstrate their ability to create new jobs for workers in BC
- **Planting more trees for a healthy industry and province:** With nearly 300 million trees planted in 2020 – more than in any other year in BC’s history – we’ll continue to make significant investments in forest health, wildfire protection, silviculture, and revitalizing our forests.
- **More jobs and opportunities through a world class BC shipbuilding industry:** The federal government’s National Shipbuilding Strategy is helping turn Seaspan’s Vancouver Shipyards into a thriving facility. Working with Seaspan, Point Hope and other shipyards, we will leverage that work with a long-term BC shipbuilding strategy to drive more global projects and create new jobs.
- **A stronger future for BC’s mining industry and workers:** We’ll create a Mining Innovation Hub to identify and support innovation, offer training for workers in new technologies, regulatory excellence, environmental management, and low-carbon approaches.
- **An LNG industry that meets BC’s needs and conditions:** After reaching agreements with elected First Nations along its proposed pipeline route, the \$40 billion LNG Canada project is underway and is expected to feature one of the lowest GHG-emission intensities of any LNG facility in the world. It shows that when people work together, we can balance our economic, environmental, social, and reconciliation priorities. This project will be comprehensively monitored to ensure it delivers on BC’s conditions, including living up to our climate commitments.
- **Capitalizing on the potential of BC’s aerospace industry:** Already a key economic generator in our province, we will support this industry by providing more training opportunities for the next generation of aerospace workers, while partnering with the industry to open up new global markets.
- **Protecting marine life and habitats while enhancing coastal economies:** We will develop a new provincial coastal strategy – in partnership with First Nations and federal and local governments – to better protect coastal habitat while growing coastal economies. A priority will be working with the federal government to address freighter traffic management and anchorage around southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.



- **Protecting BC's salmon populations:** We'll work with the federal government to develop new strategies that:
 - Protect and revitalize BC's salmon populations by building on the successful Broughton process and supporting innovation in fish hatcheries.
 - Step up protection of fish habitat through our biodiversity strategy.
 - Ensure BC processing of BC-caught fish.
- **Creating jobs for workers, opportunities for farmers, and sustainability for BC agriculture:** A new Regenerative Agricultural Network will bring together natural systems of production with agri-technologies that enhance production – such as robotics, precision farming, and mesh networks. At a time when the climate crisis is threatening the viability of farming lands, this kind of innovation can bring greater food security, agricultural sustainability, and job creation.
- **Strengthening the Grow, Feed and Buy BC programs to encourage greater food security and local business growth:** These popular programs – cut by the Liberals then brought back by John Horgan and the NDP – are key to supporting local farmers, orchardists, growers, wineries and breweries. We'll expand these programs with new worker training, land acquisition supports, and new processing hubs.

BECOMING A GLOBAL INNOVATOR OF LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The global economy is changing, and we want to make sure people in British Columbia have the opportunity to be part of it.

With the right path forward, we can position BC as a leader in delivering innovative products and services that meet heightened global expectations around environmental responsibility.

To move BC further along this path, John Horgan and the NDP will continue investing in the people, infrastructure and connectivity needed to help companies – large, medium, and small – succeed in the global marketplace.

- **Delivering high-speed connectivity throughout the province:** In 2019, we made the largest single investment in connectivity in BC's history with \$50 million dedicated to expanding high-speed networks. With our Economic Recovery Plan, we broke that record by investing an additional \$90 million – and we'll continue these priority investments until all regions are connected to the high-speed network.
- **Helping innovative BC-based start-ups grow and hire:** Through the strategic investment fund announced as part of our recovery plan, we will make targeted investments in high-potential, innovative businesses based in BC.
- **Making BC a preferred location for new ideas and tech:** Our new intellectual property strategy will include a First Patent Program to provide eligible businesses with a rebate on expenses that led to obtaining their first patent.
- **Supporting innovation clusters across BC:** Some of the best results come when companies, academics, researchers, and entrepreneurs are brought together. We will foster that collaboration, with a particular focus on emerging industries where BC companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, quantum, and virtual reality technologies.
- **Helping create more jobs and train more people:** We'll create 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces in public post-secondary institutions, provide start-ups with more ISI grants to hire new grads – with a priority on placements for women, Indigenous people, transitioning workers and others – and expand scholarships for people using online courses for necessary skill upgrades.

PROMOTING THE STRENGTHS OF BC'S SMALL & MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES

As we make the move to revitalizing BC's traditional industries and embracing emerging sectors, this is the moment for small and medium-sized businesses in our province to seize new opportunities.

Our Economic Recovery Plan is delivering much-needed help by providing:

- A 15% refundable tax credit based on eligible new payroll.
- \$300 million in recovery grants to support around 15,000 small and medium-sized businesses who've been hardest hit by COVID-19.
- A temporary 100% PST rebate on select machinery and equipment that will help eligible businesses make the kinds of investments they need to solidify their operations and then grow.
- An investment of \$400 million to revitalize community infrastructure, creating opportunities for BC companies and jobs for thousands of people.

We will make sure these critical supports remain available through the duration of the pandemic, and we will not hesitate to expand or enhance them as further needs are identified.

Building on this support, John Horgan and the NDP will:

- **Connect small business owners to mentors:** We will expand the successful RevUp program that brings business owners together with experienced mentors who provide coaching and advice on growing a successful, innovative business.
- **Help small businesses access new markets:** Having your products and services ready to go is one thing – finding a market for them is another. That’s why we’ll expand BC’s Export Navigator program which helps local businesses find and access new global markets.
- **Enhance mass timber’s potential as the construction material of the future:** Mass timber’s time has arrived – cleaner to produce than traditional lumber or concrete, it is the future of construction. We’ve already designated the new Royal BC Museum and parts of the new St. Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver as mass timber buildings, and we’ll continue to make it a priority for public buildings moving forward.
- **Support new companies who are bringing innovation to agriculture:** We will increase our support for agri-tech through the Canada/BC Agri-Innovation Program – helping BC companies grow, hire more workers, and position our province as an agri-tech leader, while protecting farm lands in the ALR.
- **Help BC restaurants and hospitality businesses through COVID-19 and beyond:** We’ll continue to support this sector by making permanent the urgent action we took in the spring: authorizing the expansion of service areas, such as patios; allowing restaurants and pubs to purchase beer, wine, and spirits at wholesale cost instead of liquor store retail prices; and allowing liquor delivery with takeout.
- **Support the tourism industry as it moves toward recovery:** In our government’s Economic Recovery Plan we are providing critical supports to help the industry move towards recovery, including a Tourism Task Force that brings together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits. A re-elected John Horgan government will act on the ideas coming out of their work.
- **Keep film and TV production competitive during this difficult time:** We will re-establish the government-film sector task force to recommend the size and term of a new visual effects tax credit based on production costs. This special measure will help this critical sector weather the pandemic’s impact while protecting jobs and market share.
- **Support the creation of dedicated arts and culture spaces:** Under our Recovery Investment Fund, we will expand our new \$2 million Arts Infrastructure Program to help communities build new cultural spaces and renovate existing ones.

TRAINING FOR A CHANGING ECONOMY

The demands for advanced education and training have never been higher, and we've made real progress in meeting those demands over the past three years. We've brought back student grants, eliminated interest on student loans, and opened up tens of thousands of university, college, and apprenticeship seats.

John Horgan and the NDP will continue to create new advanced learning spaces and apprenticeship opportunities, while keeping programs more affordable for everyone.

- **Making education and training more affordable for more students:** After the BC Liberals cut student grant programs, we made the first new investment in post-secondary student grants in 15 years with Budget 2020's needs-based BC Access Grant. We will move to expand this program by increasing eligibility to reduce barriers and make sure more British Columbians have the skills they need for the jobs ahead.
- **Keeping student fee increases low:** We will strengthen the existing Tuition Fee Limit Policy to make sure institutions are not increasing fees beyond the prescribed limits. At the same time, we'll conduct a funding review of post-secondary education operating grants to make sure public post-secondary institutions are aligned for economic recovery and student success.
- **Making post-secondary education and training more available:** We are creating more learning and training opportunities around the province, particularly in fast-growing fields like health care and high tech. We've opened up the first nursing degree program in the north; we are committed to opening BC's second medical school to expand our health care workforce; we are creating new spaces in early childhood education; and we will create 2,000 new tech-relevant spaces in public post-secondary institutions .
- **Investing in apprenticeships to deliver good-paying jobs and keep the public safe:** The BC Liberals left British Columbia as the only province without a compulsory trades system – meaning the person hooking up gas pipes to a new office tower, for example, isn't required to complete an apprenticeship and get red seal certified. We will restore the compulsory trades system to improve safety and give more workers access to apprenticeships that develop their skills for the work ahead.
- **Expanding tuition waivers to all former youth in care:** A little over three years ago, we introduced the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program for former youth in care, providing them access to post-secondary learning tuition-free. Restricted to people ages 19-26 then, we will expand this program to all former youth in care, regardless of age.

HELPING WORKERS STAY SAFE & GET AHEAD

In an economy that works for everyone, we must do everything we can to make sure workers earn a good livelihood, feel a sense of security in the work they do, and – above all else – stay healthy and safe in the workplace.

The changes we've made to increase the minimum wage, improve employment standards, and add new workplace safety protections are just the beginning. BC workers are front-and-centre in our government's new Economic Recovery Act, and we will continue to bring forward improved rights and benefits for all working people.

- **Greater security and stability for BC workers:**

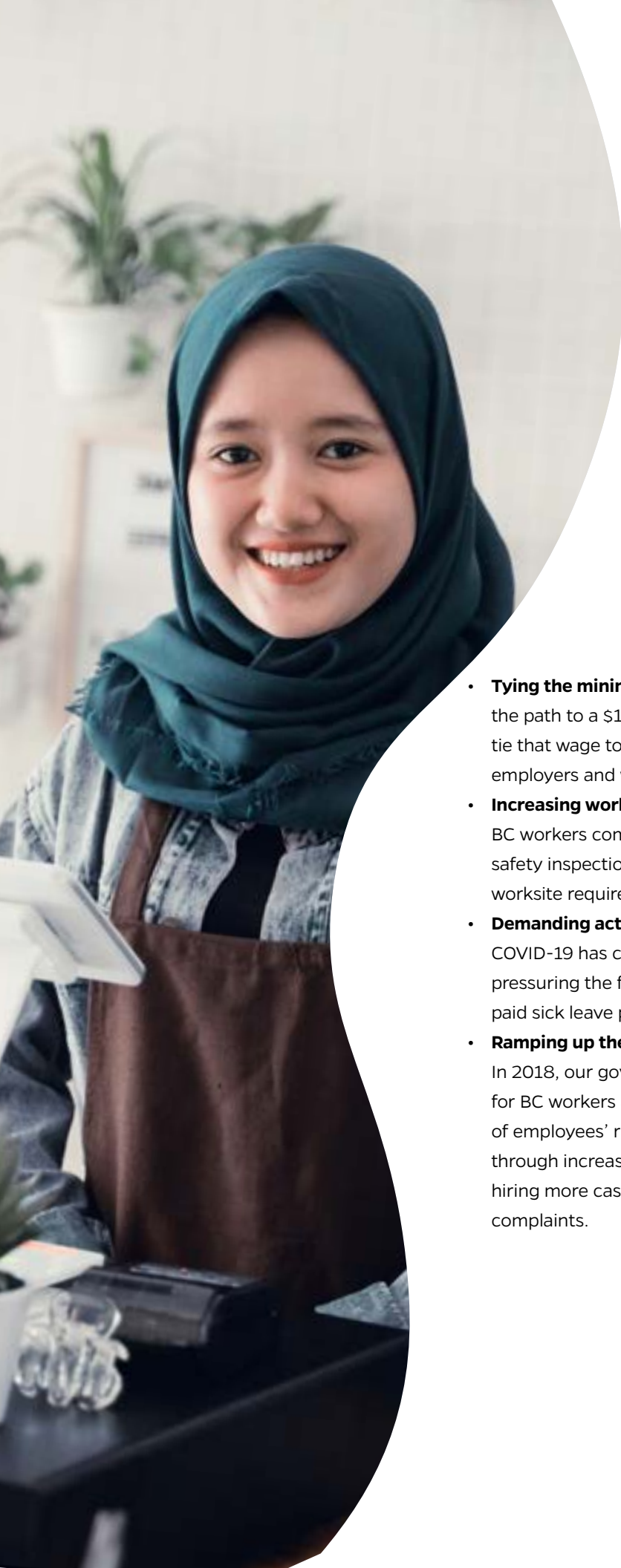
COVID-19 has exposed how precarious livelihoods can be for contract and gig workers – who represent a growing percentage of the workforce as people cobble together multiple jobs to make ends meet. We will develop a precarious work and gig economy strategy focused on:

- Developing employment standards targeted to precarious and gig economy workers.
- Making sure every worker has the right to join a union and bargain for fair working conditions.

The strategy will be developed in partnership with labour and business organizations, and will reflect the diverse needs and unique situations of modern workplaces.

- **Pensions and benefits for precarious and gig workers:**

As part of our precarious work and gig economy strategy, we will develop a government-backed, collective benefit fund for independent contractors, the self-employed, and part-time workers – and expand access to a voluntary pooled-capital pension plan for workers who do not otherwise have coverage.



- **Tying the minimum wage to inflation:** Our government put BC on the path to a \$15 minimum wage in 2021. Going forward, we will tie that wage to the rate of inflation to provide predictability for employers and workers.
- **Increasing workplace safety inspections:** We need to make sure BC workers come home safely at the end of the day. We will increase safety inspections to help make sure employers are abiding by all worksite requirements for keeping their workers safe.
- **Demanding action by the federal government on paid sick leave:** COVID-19 has clearly demonstrated the need, and we will keep pressuring the federal government to follow through on providing a paid sick leave program that protects workers and businesses.
- **Ramping up the province's capacity to enforce workers' rights:** In 2018, our government began restoring employment standards for BC workers after the BC Liberals cut back on the protection of employees' rights. We will continue to strengthen those rights through increased employment standards inspections and by hiring more case workers to help resolve employment standards complaints.

OUR PLAN'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We've accomplished a lot in three years, but coming on the heels of 16 years of neglect, there's more to do to fix health care in our province – and then make it work even better for you. That means:

A MORE AFFORDABLE PROVINCE FOR EVERYONE

Three years ago, we committed to creating a more affordable future for you and your family. That meant restoring public services that were cut by the BC Liberals, then expanding those services to more communities and people. That commitment remains firm – and all the more important as we work together to get through the CoVid-19 pandemic. While the BC Liberals' plan is aimed at helping multimillionaires while making you pay the price, John Horgan and the NDP will continue working to make life more affordable for everyone.

LASTING AND MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES


Reconciliation is a process, a shared responsibility for all of us. It will take time and commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move towards self-determination. The John Horgan government is creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples and communities to be full partners in the economy, providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work together. The BC NDP understands the meaningful work our province is doing now will create a lasting legacy for generations to come.

A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

John Horgan and the NDP are proud of bringing the CleanBC Climate Change strategy to our province. This strategy embraces all that makes British Columbia special – the nature, the people, the spirit of community – and demands we do more to protect it from the dangers posed by climate change. CleanBC is about putting British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future – with a low-carbon economy that creates new, clean-energy jobs and opportunities for all while protecting our clean air, land and water.

PUTTING WORKERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES AT THE FRONT OF OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

British Columbia's recovery is going to come from helping the workers and small businesses that lay at the heart of our province's economy. That's why our government launched Building BC's Recovery, Together survey and discussion in June – to hear what people, business and communities had to say on the steps we should take next. From there, we put the best ideas into action to provide immediate help – and we know there's much more left to do as we move towards full recovery.



A RESPONSIBLE AND BALANCED FISCAL APPROACH

Over our first three full budgets, John Horgan and the NDP showed that you can invest in people and the public services they count on while creating Canada's best economy and delivering balanced budgets.

At the beginning of 2020 – after three consecutive balanced budgets – we led the country with the lowest unemployment rate, were among the top in employment growth, had zero operating debt, and maintained our best-in-class credit rating while making historic investments in hospitals and health facilities, highway and transit projects, schools, childcare spaces, and new housing throughout BC.

Throughout this period, British Columbia's fiscal position strengthened substantially. Net debt to GDP declined from 17.6% in 2015-16 to 14.6% in 2018 and the debt to revenue picture strengthened. As a result of this sound fiscal stewardship, British Columbia was one of the only provinces in the country on a fiscally sustainable long run path.

Then in March, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, threatening the lives and livelihoods of every British Columbian. Our government responded with one of the most supportive, comprehensive action plans in the country. The unprecedented impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic hit almost all of the province's revenue streams, and the additional expenses for our response measures – including workers benefits, rent supplements, income and disability assistance supports, and economic recovery funding – meant that, compared to Budget 2020, revenue forecasts were lower by \$4.6 billion and expenses were higher by \$7.7 billion. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a provincial operating deficit projection of \$12.8 billion.



Going forward, our fiscal beliefs will not change:

- Unlike the BC Liberals, we know that you can't cut your way to prosperity. Cuts don't help people. Austerity doesn't grow the economy. And putting the interests of the wealthy and well-connected ahead of working people is not how you build confidence and create prosperity.
- People are the economy and the economy is people. We will not make cuts to the public services people are depending on now more than ever – and we will continue to make critical investments in health care, education, childcare, and housing. We will do whatever it takes to protect you and your family from the pandemic and its economic impacts.
- We believe in investing in communities, building needed hospitals, transportation improvements, schools, child care spaces, and new housing while maintaining our best-in-class credit rating. Not only do capital investments make good economic sense, they're the right thing to do to support thriving communities and grow local economies and businesses.
- We will not increase taxes on middle class families, or undermine public services through privatization, wage cuts, or contract rollbacks. A strong economy starts with a strong middle class.

These are the values that will guide our fiscal plan.

But due to the high degree of uncertainty regarding the depth and duration of the economic downturn caused by the pandemic and the path to recovery, it would be irresponsible to make firm projections on revenue streams or growth. We won't kid British Columbians – the deficit is currently \$12.8 billion, and the budget won't be balanced overnight. Our priority right now is helping people and businesses, their lives and livelihoods, through this pandemic.

Getting our economy up and running again with a strong stimulus and recovery plan is the most fiscally responsible path we can take to get British Columbia out of the deepest recession in a generation. We will continue to be fiscally responsible, which means ensuring the province is fiscally sustainable over the long run.

And that is what our plan for BC is all about – supporting people and businesses to rebuild our economy, health and livelihoods. We expect the following additional expenses to be added to the deficit. These new investments are additional to the significant investments made in Budget 2020 and through our COVID-19 relief and recovery plans. Over time, when the economy rebounds, and people and businesses are back on their feet, we will get back to balance.

	2020 2021	2021 2022	2022 2023
Priority 1 - Better health care for you and your family			
Care in your community	(50)	(100)	(100)
Reducing your wait for care	(0)	(100)	(150)
A better life for seniors	(111)	(272)	(272)
10-year cancer care plan	(50)	(100)	(300)
Saving lives, healing pain	(84)	(168)	(228)
Making healthcare more affordable	(30)	(80)	(100)
Total new expenses - health	(325)	(820)	(1,150)
Priority 2 - Affordability & security in your home and community			
A recovery benefit for British Columbians	(1,450)	N/A	N/A
Making housing more affordable	(12)	(144)	(144)
Better access to affordable, quality child care	(250)	(500)	(750)
Better learning for your child	(25)	(100)	(100)
Moving you around faster and more affordably	(16)	(47)	(47)
Tackling climate change, protecting nature	(16)	(31)	(31)
Reconciliation	(40)	(75)	(75)
Equality, inclusion and human rights	(21)	(52)	(52)
Safer, caring & healthier neighbourhoods	(16)	(31)	(31)
Total new expenses - home and community	(1,846)	(980)	(1,230)
Priority 3 - Good jobs & livelihoods in a clean-energy future*			
A clean-energy economy & future*	(18)	(45)	(45)
A strong future for resource communities*	(23)	(52)	(57)
Becoming a global innovator*	(16)	(46)	(101)
Promoting BC's small and medium businesses*	(4)	(16)	(21)
Training for a changing economy*	(5)	(45)	(45)
Helping workers stay safe and get ahead*	(6)	(10)	(10)
Total new expenses - good jobs and livelihoods*	(72)	(214)	(279)
Total new expenses	(2,243)	(2,014)	(2,659)
First Quarterly Report projected deficit (September 10, 2020)	(12,792)	Not projected	Not projected
Revised deficit	(15,035)	N/A	N/A

*British Columbia's economic recovery plan - Stronger BC, announced in September 2020 - includes over \$1.5 billion in direct supports for businesses, jobs and training, including: a 15% tax credit on eligible new payroll; a temporary 100% PST rebate on select machinery and equipment; a new \$300 million Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant to protect jobs; over \$100 million to support the tourism industry; and over \$400 million in direct funding for jobs and training for people, among other supports.

Note: The table above does not include new capital expenditures. Our platform includes the Recovery Investment Fund, which adds 1% of GDP - or approximately \$3 billion - to the capital plan each year, for a total of \$9 billion in new capital investments over three years. Budget 2020 provided over \$23 billion - the largest investment in BC history - to build the infrastructure we need to keep moving forward - schools, hospitals, highways, and housing. This plan adds to that so we can meet the needs of our economic recovery and growing population.

