



HOUSE OF COMMONS
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CANADA

PATRICK WEILER

Member of Parliament
West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country



/PatrickBWeiler



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SPRING 2021

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

With the arrival of spring, we also mark one year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. With Health Canada's approval of the AstraZeneca and Johnson and Johnson vaccines, and with millions of doses arriving each week, we are on track to meet our goals of receiving 8 million doses by the end of March, 36.5 million by the end of June, and 117.9 million by the end of September. As a reminder, for all information pertaining to the federal government's response to COVID-19, including vaccine deliveries, please visit canada.ca/coronavirus.

The last few months have been incredibly tough, and while we can have confidence that the outlook improves every day, the toll the pandemic has had on our mental health bears recognition. To that end, I want to point you to the Government of Canada's Wellness Together service, which was set up to help those suffering from mental distress impacts from the pandemic. For more information, please visit <https://ca.portal.gs/>.

On January 25, 2021, our Government launched pre-budget consultations with Canadians. Once the coronavirus is under control, it will be time to rebuild. In early February, I hosted three pre-budget consultations to address the unique and specific needs of three

major communities in my riding. During the course of our pre-budget community consultations, we heard from a range of sectors, regions, and industries to discuss ways to ensure a strong economic recovery once the virus is defeated. After these consultations, I drafted a letter to the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and included our What We Heard Report which can be found on our website (patrickweiler.ca).

A reminder that you can find more information about my work as your Member of Parliament on our social media pages (@PatrickBWeiler) and on our website, including my monthly Coast to Capital column submissions to The Local Weekly newspaper, links to our ministerial townhalls, PDFs of our MP print mailings, and our monthly digital newsletters.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weiler, MP
West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

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HONOURING HARRY JEROME

On February 23, we shared in celebration with the West Vancouver Place for Sport, which announced it will dedicate their new track in honour of Canadian hero and homegrown athlete Harry Jerome. I also highlighted Harry Jerome's incredible legacy in a Member's Statement in the House of Commons in late February, which you can watch on my Facebook page.

Harry Jerome was a renowned track and field sprinter. Despite his incredible achievements, including an Olympic medal and seven world records, he faced significant prejudice and racial injustice as a Black man in his community. His perseverance despite these challenges was incredible.

Thanks to the Place for Sport, Harry Jerome is receiving the reverence he deserves. While his legacy continues to inspire young athletes, we recognize that the cruelty and racism he faced still persists in a number of ways today and we must continue to work together to root out racism in our community and across the country.

We Want to Hear From You

Share your thoughts by emailing us at Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca or sending a letter to the Constituency Office at 6367 Bruce Street West Vancouver, BC, V7W 2G5. No postage required.

NOWRUZ MOBARAK!

On March 20, we marked the Persian New Year, Nowruz, the first day of spring and the beginning of the New Year in the Persian calendar.

This is a time for family and friends to mark the renewal of spring and show gratitude for our blessings while sharing aspirations of hope and optimism for the year ahead. We are very fortunate to have a vibrant Iranian-Canadian community on the North Shore, which contributes enormously to the cultural fabric of our region and country. I look forward to celebrating fully next year with the traditional festivals and events that make Nowruz so special. Until then, I wish you and your loved ones a very safe and happy Nowruz. Nowruz Mobarak!



Photo: The traditional Nowruz Haft-sin arrangement set up in our Ottawa office

INVESTING IN OUR LEGIONS

On March 2, I announced \$91,715 in funding from the Government of Canada to support legions across the riding. This funding is being delivered through the Veterans Organizations Emergency Support Fund and will assist legions with their operational costs so they can continue providing important support for Veterans.

The funding is being allocated to eight legion branches across West Vancouver –Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country. Legions receiving these funds will have access to the support they need to replace charitable and other revenue lost because of the pandemic and will be able to continue their work with Veterans and their families during a time when it is needed most.

Any Veteran can tell you that the support they get from the Royal Canadian Legion and other organizations like these makes a world of difference in their lives. They are important gathering places for veterans and the community at large, and it is vital that we support them. This investment will help sustain legions across our riding so they can continue to provide important services for our Veterans and their loved ones.



Photos: (Left) Legion funding announcement

(Right) Supporting local businesses in West Vancouver

EMERGENCY COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

In April 2020, our Government announced an investment of \$350 million to support vulnerable Canadians through charities and non-profit organizations that deliver essential services to those in need through the Emergency Community Support Fund. This Fund aims to help community organizations adapt frontline services for vulnerable Canadians to face the challenges of COVID-19.

In March, we announced the next round of funding for organizations across our riding. Here in West Vancouver and on Bowen Island, this includes the North Shore Meals on Wheels Society, West Vancouver Memorial Library, North Shore Restorative Justice Society, the Bowen Island Health Centre Foundation, among many others.

The "Feed the Need" program run by the West Vancouver Seniors' Activity Centre was an early recipient of this fund, and a recent recipient of funding from the New Horizons Program for Seniors. This program has delivered over 22,000 meals to hundreds of vulnerable and oftentimes isolated seniors, underscoring that even in an affluent community like West Vancouver, seniors poverty and hunger is a significant issue. The community has responded by donating funds to continue this critical program to 2022, including by the generous matching funding from the Rosemary Mottershead Fund.

With these further supports, we are making sure vulnerable Canadians feeling the financial and social impacts of COVID-19 are getting the help they need, when they need it most. Thank you to our national partners and the many local community groups and organizations helping vulnerable Canadians during this difficult time. I invite you to visit the West Vancouver and Bowen Island Community Foundation websites to learn more about the projects that have been supported.