



HOUSE OF COMMONS
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CANADA

PATRICK WEILER

Member of Parliament

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country



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FEBRUARY 2021

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

I know many of us are welcoming 2021 with hope for the future. As vaccines are delivered in our province and across the country, we are starting to finally see light at the end of the tunnel.

It has been a busy January as we settle into the new year. On January 13, 2021, I hosted our second annual Constituency Office Open House, virtually welcoming residents from across our riding to meet me and my team, and to hear from constituents on how our Government will move forward in the year ahead.

I also had the opportunity to present our inaugural Unsung Champion Awards to celebrate and recognize volunteers in our community that have stepped up in the past year in service to their communities. Recipients are nominated by fellow community members to highlight volunteers who make our communities kinder, stronger and a better place. Visit our website – Patrickweiler.ca – for more information on this year's Unsung Champions.

Parliament resumed sitting on January 25th and we have a busy schedule of work before us, highlighted by ongoing work related to the COVID-19 pandemic, charting the path of economic recovery while passing our strengthened climate action legislation and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into federal law, among many other important initiatives.

Of course, our Government is focused not only on how we can recover from the pandemic but 'Build Back Better' to a country that is more sustainable, inclusive and equitable. There are

many priorities that we will focus on in 2021 – here are my top three items I hope to reflect on having accomplished by the year's end:

- Eliminating the COVID-19 virus in Canada, and setting our country on a road to "Build Back Better", through the 2021 Budget and creating and utilizing a new Regional Development Agency for British Columbia to support local enterprises and to help them seize the unique economic opportunities available to them.
- Reforming the Temporary Foreign Workers Program, creating other new immigration programs, and leveraging existing immigration streams to ensure that more new Canadians settle on our shores in 2021 than any other year to date.
- Creating the framework for a Canada-wide Childcare System so that we are on a path to having universal accessible and affordable childcare in West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast - Sea to Sky Country and right across Canada.

Together, I am confident that we can accomplish these priorities and much more. I look forward to working with my colleagues to make this happen as we hopefully look to better times ahead.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weiler, MP
West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-
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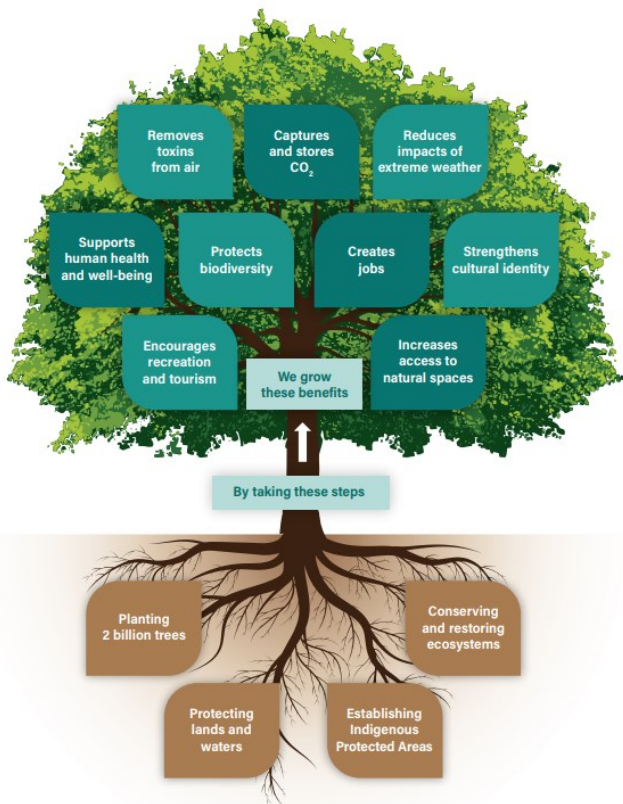
We Want to Hear From You

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

CANADA'S STRENGTHENED CLIMATE PLAN

In December 2020, our Government was proud to announce Canada's Strengthened Climate Plan, *A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy*. This plan will make our environment and our economy healthier and more resilient over the immediate and long term. This plan takes the same urgency, focus, and science-based decisions to the climate crisis as we have applied to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as we work to create a healthy and habitable planet. It introduces 64 new measures and \$15 billion in investments to ensure Canada exceeds its 2030 GHG reduction targets, putting us in the range of 32% to 40% below 2005 levels in 2030. This plan builds upon the 50 measures, \$60 billion in investments in the 2016 Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change that will be responsible for cutting 227 million tonnes of pollution.

The *Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy* plan includes investments in more sustainable building and retrofits, supports adoption of zero emissions vehicles, advances nature-based solutions, and helps support the transition of key industries. Importantly, it also continues the increase of Canada's price on pollution through to 2030, rising at \$15 per tonne after 2022, while rebating more money back to households for the vast majority of Canadians than they pay in provinces where the federal system applies. Overall, this plan provides price signals to individuals and businesses to make more sustainable decisions while supporting them in the process as the initial cost differential narrows.



To ensure that this government and future governments set emissions reduction targets that are informed by science, develop plans to meet them, and are held accountable for doing so, we introduced Bill C-12, Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act. This Act will require that legally binding national targets and plans for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Canada be put in place for successive five-year increments. These targets and emissions reduction plans must both be tabled in Parliament. This legislation includes various reporting mechanisms and creates an advisory body to allow for our evidence-based climate plans to be informed by the foremost experts in various fields in our country.

Countries around the world are accelerating their transition to a net-zero economy, and Canada cannot fall behind. Net-zero is not just a plan for a healthier environment; it is a plan to build a cleaner, more competitive economy, representing the greatest economic opportunity of our generation. We will be there to support Canadians, entrepreneurs, and businesses seize these economic opportunities so that we provide the world with the cleanest, most cutting-edge innovations that are in increasingly high demand.

GREEN INVESTMENTS ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

On the Sunshine Coast, our Government has made a number of investments to advance conservation and habitat restoration efforts and to help businesses transition to green-friendly practices. For example, in 2019 our Government invested \$100,000 for the Nicholas Sonntag Marine Education Centre through the Climate Action Fund. This funding has helped the Marine Education Centre deliver programs and workshops to help community and business leaders with climate resilience and adaptation, while also providing opportunities to promote reconciliation and traditional ecological knowledge.

In November 2020, I was proud to announce approximately \$4 million to support 53 projects under the EcoAction Community Funding Program, including \$85,000 to support the work of the British Columbia Conservation Foundation, which is undertaking wetland and shoreline restoration and stewardship on the Sunshine Coast. Their project will employ six community members and work with the shishálh Nation to restore wetlands in West Sechelt that were destroyed by forest fires and logging activity. By working together with trusted delivery partners, projects like these will restore sensitive ecosystems, rehabilitate our environment, and create jobs in our communities, building resilience for the future.