

## Protecting Howe Sound



Átl'ka7sem/Howe Sound is home to more than 200,000 hectares of land and sea, and is home to at least 39 species listed under the Species at Risk Act. It has held a special place in the hearts of local inhabitants for thousands of years and was rightly recognized for its immense natural and cultural value by UNESCO with its designation as a Biosphere Reserve last year.

For that reason, I was pleased to welcome the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, to Lions Bay, where we joined Squamish Nation Councillor Joyce Williams and Executive Director of the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Ruth Simons to announce a \$926,000 investment in the Átl'ka7sem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region to protect nature and help meet Canada's conservation goals.

The goal of this funding is to support management and biodiversity conservation activities in the biosphere region, and to set a standard for how people and nature can thrive together. This announcement exemplifies how the federal government can work with local communities to protect our environment, and meet our commitment of protecting 30% of Canada's lands and waters by 2030.



After the announcement, Minister Guilbeault and I kayaked through Átl'ka7sem/Howe Sound with the help of some guides, as well as touring through some Old Growth Forests to help instill a deeper appreciation for the environmental treasures that are being protected.

## Meeting Canada Summer Jobs Students

Through the federal government's Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program, 361 jobs were created this past summer for young people in our region, representing \$1,305,128 in funding. The CSJ program not only provides valuable work experience to develop foundational career skills for youth, it supports deserving employers that deliver important services to our community. If you would like to get involved in the program next year, stay tuned for an update in December.

CSJ participants are working in a variety of fields and positions, including for small businesses, non-profits, and charity and advocacy organizations. Helping young people find valuable job experiences doesn't just help young people; it represents an investment in the future of our community and country.



With Defne, CSJ student, and Doti Niedermeyer, seeing her work at the Harmony Arts Festival



With a CSJ student in West Van, part of Georgia Strait Alliance

With CSJ students on the Sunshine Coast, as part of the Sunshine Coast Community Solar Association

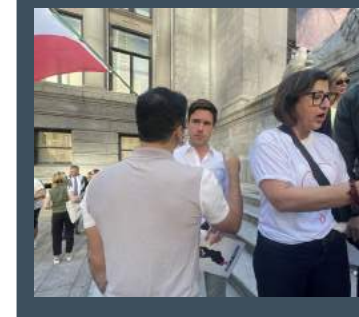
## The Situation in Iran

We have all seen the inspiring courage of schoolgirls, women and everyday Iranians who have risen up in protest after the death of Mahsa Amini. She was arrested because of what she was wearing by Iran's "morality police", dying in their custody. Since her death, we have seen people courageously stand up to the Iranian regime's attack on basic human rights.

We condemn the Iranian government's brutal crackdown, which has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of brave protestors. We stand with the families and victims of those who have suffered at the hands of the Iranian regime. That is why the Prime Minister announced that we will implement sanctions on over ten thousand Iranian individuals and entities, including the so-called morality police and against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Iran is already listed as a state-sponsor of terrorism, and the sanctions announced will ensure that top members of the Iranian regime, including the IRGC, are permanently banned from being in or entering Canada.

Demonstrations for Iranian women have gone global, including thousands of demonstrators at several October events in Vancouver I was proud to participate in. Feedback from dozens of constituents that attended a community discussion I hosted over Zoom inspired the development of a hotline for constituents to report actions of the Iranian regime in Canada. Thank you to everyone who shared your stories and thoughts to me as the government continues to coordinate a strong federal response to hold the regime accountable and to keep you and your family safe.

As we continue to respond to this evolving situation, I want to emphasize a clear message to the women in Iran who are protesting and to those who are supporting them: we are with you.



## Expanding the Oceans Protection Plan

Coastal British Columbians have a special connection with our oceans, and we are committed to keeping our marine environment clean and healthy. As your MP, it's been a key driver of my work. That is why it was fitting for the Prime Minister, Ministers Joyce Murray and Omar Alghabra, and Khelsilem, Squamish Nation Council Chairperson, and I to announce an additional \$2 billion towards enhancing and expanding the Oceans Protections Plan on Bowen Island this July.

Launched in 2016, this program's funding has already helped re-launch coast guard stations, establish an Indigenous-led coast guard auxiliary, restore coastal aquatic habitats, and remove hundreds of abandoned boats here in our region and across BC. This additional funding will help support and amplify these measures, as we work across our riding along with Indigenous and coastal communities to ensure we keep our oceans and coastlines clean and protected.



**PATRICK WEILER**  
Member of Parliament

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

[f](#) /PatrickBWeiler [t](#) @PatrickBWeiler [i](#) @PatrickBWeiler

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

After a long, dry and joyous summer saw the return of so many important community events, parliamentarians are back in Ottawa to deliver on the important priorities of Canadians, including tackling the rising cost of living and advancing key pieces of legislation.

With the passage of Bill C-30 and work on Bill C-31, new affordability measures are now being rolled out, including doubling the GST tax credit for six months, dental coverage for low-income children under 12, and delivering \$500 for over 2 million low-income renters. We also announced that as a result of our \$10/day childcare agreement that we signed with British Columbia last year, by December 1st, 2022, families in the province will have childcare costs cut in half, saving up to \$6,600 a year. The number of spaces offered through the \$10-a-day program will be doubled to 12,500 by the end of the year as well.

### MAKING LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR CANADIANS



This newsletter contains a retrospective of the important events over the course of the summer, during which I was able to visit every part of the riding to meet with constituents and hear directly about your priorities. I also had the opportunity to announce a number of important federal investments that will enhance life in our communities. From Indigenous housing, broadband connection, water infrastructure, ocean protection, nature conservation to accessible public spaces, we are building stronger, cleaner, and more sustainable communities that will benefit everyone.

Sincerely,

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



I would like to acknowledge that our riding is located on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Shíshálh (Sechelt), Líl'wat (Lil'wat), səliwataʔ (Tsil'lit-Waututh), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and N'Quatqua Nations.

**MP Newsletter:  
Autumn 2022**

**CONTACT US**

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

6367 Bruce Street  
West Vancouver BC  
V7W 2G5  
Tel. 604-913-2660  
Fax. 604-913-2664

[✉ Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca)  
[globe icon patrickweiler.ca](http://patrickweiler.ca)

Scan the QR Code below to visit our website





## Building Cleaner & More

### Accessible Communities

As part of our government's infrastructure plan, we are committed to creating more active, accessible, inclusive, and ultimately more liveable communities. To that end, I announced funding for the Town of Gibsons to refresh public park space at the Five Corners intersection in downtown. The renovated park will provide residents and visitors with a safe, multi-purpose space to gather, encouraging community engagement and improving wellness. Investments this summer were also announced to upgrade Sechelt Inlet Avenue to make it more accessible with the installation of new lighting for night-time visibility and tactile landing pads for people with visual handicaps, as well as an investment for the One Straw Society to redesign and expand their One Tiny Farm community garden.

This summer, I also had the opportunity to announce a federal investment of \$461,400 to complete upgrades to the Woodcreek Park Wastewater Treatment Plant System in the Sunshine Coast Regional District. This project will make major and much needed upgrades to the plant, ensuring residents benefit from improved water quality and a cleaner environment. Construction is expected to be completed by spring 2023.

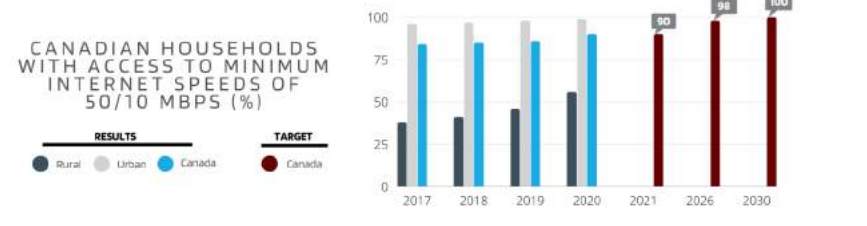


### Connecting the Coast: Bringing High Speed Internet to Keats & Gambier

Gudie Hutchings, Canada's Minister of Rural Economic Development joined me for an announcement of a \$1.9 million investment to bring high-speed Internet to 663 households on Keats Island and Gambier Island. These two projects are part of the larger \$830 million federal-provincial funding commitment announced earlier this year, where we are fast connecting the last remaining parts of our province that do not have high speed Internet access. Canada is committed to connecting 98% of households to high speed Internet by 2026 and 100% by 2030. Our government is committed to ensuring that all British Columbians and all Canadians have access to affordable and reliable high-speed Internet—a must in today's increasingly digital world. We know that these projects will create jobs, improve access to essential services, and help families and friends stay in touch, making life better for everyone across our community.



Announcing high-speed internet on Gambier



### Investing in Community Infrastructure

Brennan Park Recreational Centre has been one of the most well-loved and well-used recreational facilities in the province since it opened in 1977, but it is in dire need of upgrades. For that reason, it was a great pleasure to announce \$11.7 million in federal funding for a deep retrofit of the centre alongside then Mayor Karen Elliott and Squamish Nation Councillor Joyce Williams. This deep retrofit project will make the building more accessible and energy-efficient. It exemplifies the kind of green infrastructure that creates cleaner and healthier communities, and that helps us achieve our goal of net-zero emissions by 2050 while greatly reducing operational costs.

In October, we also announced a series of investments to support 17 projects across British Columbia as part of the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, including three in our riding. The funding announced includes projects for the District of Squamish to provide new community covered spaces, new programming for the Deer Crossing the Art Farm in Gibsons, and for the Roberts Creek Community Association to build a wheelchair accessible outdoor patio. These investments will help build safer, healthier, and more accessible communities, opening up new and enhancing existing gathering spaces, creating jobs and building resilient local economies.



Attending the Brennan Park announcement with Mayor Karen Elliott and Councillor Joyce Williams

## Celebrating shíshálh Nation Self-Governance



With hiwus (Chief) Warren Paull and Canada's Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller

On June 22nd, my unanimous consent motion to fast track Bill S-10 passed, immediately updating the self governance agreement of the shíshálh and several other nations that had been negotiated over many years.

In July, I joined Marc Miller, Canada's Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, hiwus (Chief) Warren Paull of the shíshálh Nation, and members of the shíshálh Council for an excursion within the traditional swiya (territory) of the shíshálh to celebrate the coming into law of the shíshálh Nation's modernized self governance agreement.

This agreement is an important step forward in reconciliation and a model for Indigenous self-determination and governance across Canada. I was humbled to join the Nation in visiting and learning about the rich history and traditions of the shíshálh.

We also announced a federal investment of \$9.1 million towards housing infrastructure. This important housing investment will provide shelter to address urgent housing needs while enhancing community vitality for the shíshálh Nation. We are proud to deliver this funding and will continue to work with the Nation and all partners on our many shared goals and priorities.



At the shíshálh Nation longhouse

### Investing in Indigenous Tourism & Youth Employment

At the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, an investment of \$220,500 has created a new Indigenous tourism experience showcasing the cultures of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations. Visitors are invited to participate in carving a 30 foot-long cedar canoe that is installed at the centre for public viewing. This anchor attraction provides the community with a unique and meaningful opportunity to connect visitors to the land and participate in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. In addition to creating and maintaining jobs for the dozens of Indigenous staff, the exhibit has provided a tangible way for visitors to directly connect with and learn about Indigenous culture, including close to 15,000 visitors to date.

The Cheakamus Foundation for Environmental Learning received funding to enhance year-round Indigenous cultural experiences at Cheakamus Centre, a recognized education and nature-based events facility. It will engage Skwxwúmesh (Squamish) Knowledge Keepers to ensure respectful integration of new Indigenous programming elements. In addition to educating visitors on the region's Indigenous heritage and teachings, the project is expected to produce career pathways for local Indigenous youth.

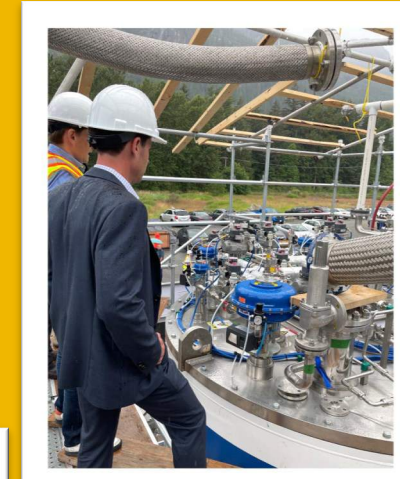


Pender Harbour May Day with MLA Simons

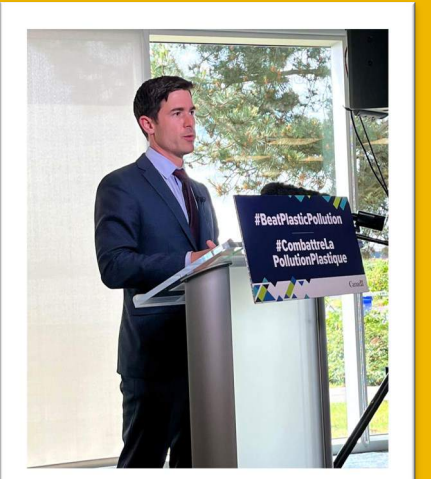


Squamish Sikh Festival

### SUMMER 2022 EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Touring the Quantum Technology Centre in Squamish



Announcing plastic pollution strategy at the Pacific Science Enterprise Centre, West Van



Canada Day with hiwus (Chief) Warren Paul



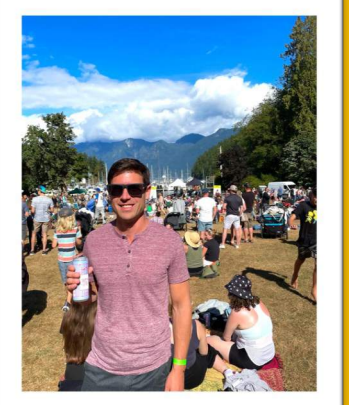
Vancouver Pride Parade with Marci Ien, Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Youth



Constituency Youth Council Townhall with Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources



Walk-a-thon to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation



Enjoying Bowfest on Bowen Island