

information presented in these memos illustrates the impact of COVID-19 on Vancouver's labour force and economy over the most recent 3-month period since the Pandemic began. This information is meant to be viewed in conjunction with other socio-economic and community statistics to form a cohesive picture of the City's current state and assist with recovery and resilience planning. This information is posted to the City's website and is shared with the business community.

Important notes about the data

The statistics presented in this memo are for the Metro Vancouver region as the Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) is the smallest geography level available for LFS data tables published by Statistics Canada. Throughout this memo, the term "Vancouver" refers to the Vancouver CMA. The LFS data used to create the statistics presented in this report are not seasonally adjusted¹.

Changes in employment totals and unemployment rate

Employment in Vancouver increased from 1,518,300 in September to 1,520,900 for a gain of 2,600 (0.2%) jobs. Between September and December, the unemployment rate decreased by 1.0 percentage point to 5.0% in Vancouver. In December 2021, the region had 32,500 (2.2%) more employed workers than in February 2020. This slight increase shows employment numbers have returned to pre-pandemic levels and are comparable to levels seen prior to February 2020. Peak job losses of 251,200 (-17.2%) were recorded between February and April 2020. Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased by 1.0 percentage point between September and December 2021 to 5.9%.

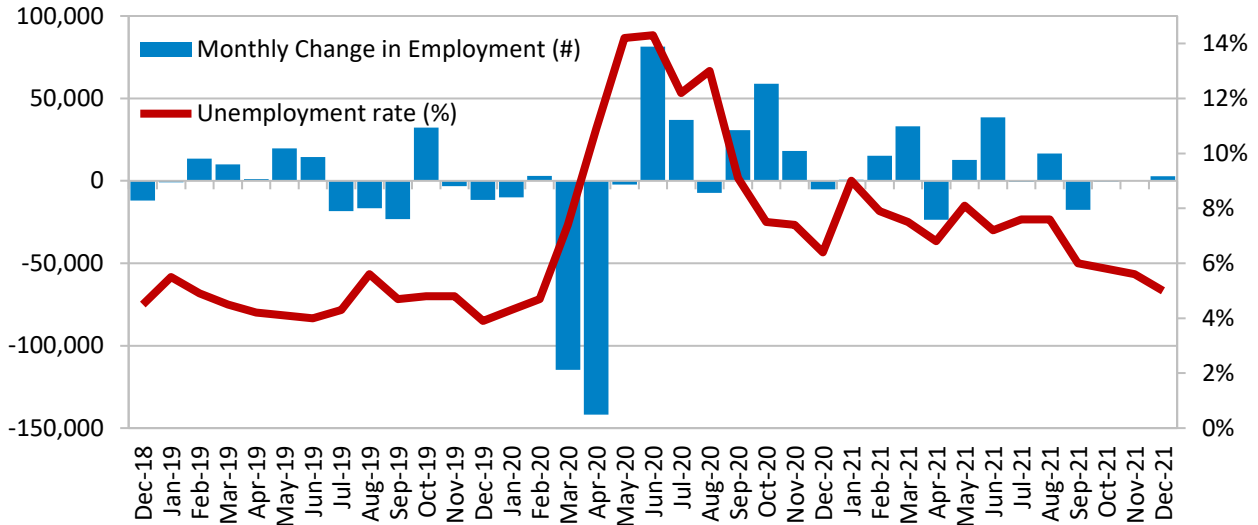
The fluctuations in employment levels from March 2020 to December 2021 reflect changes to public health restrictions and other measures, including increased limitations on some businesses under "circuit breaker" restrictions in late March 2021 followed by the gradual easing of some provincial restrictions May 25th and June 15th, 2021. The province moved to Step 3 of the Restart Plan on June 30, 2021, relaxing a number of major orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic preceding the reference weeks in July and August (July 11th to July 17th, 2021 and August 15th to August 21st, 2021). Subsequently, on September 13th, during the Census reference week (September 12th to September 18th, 2021), the province introduced proof of vaccination requirements at most indoor public spaces. It should be noted that the new restrictions the province brought in on December 19, 2021, to restrict the spread of the Omicron variant, and the subsequent tightening of these measures on December 22, 2021, occurred after the December census reference period (December 14th to December 18th, 2021).

Please see Figure 7 for a full list of announcements and orders made since the previous reference period. Appendix A shows all prior announcements and orders starting on March 12, 2020.

Regular Council reporting on regional employment trends was initiated at the onset of the pandemic. As the statistics have shown a sustained return of overall employment to pre-pandemic levels, this will be the final memo in the series issued by PDS. Staff will continue to monitor economic conditions and will report back to Council as needed.

¹ Seasonal adjustments to labour force data are done to eliminate the effect of seasonal and calendar influences (e.g. seasonal shopping or agricultural work).

Figure 1 – Unemployment rate and monthly employment change in Metro Vancouver

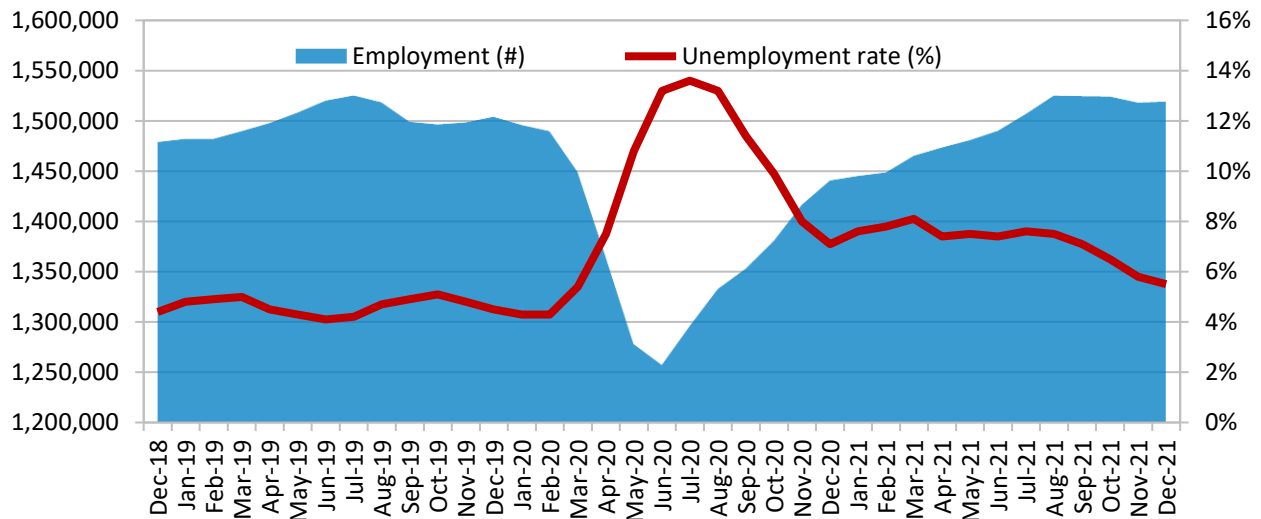


Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0383-01](#) Labour force characteristics by census metropolitan areas, unadjusted for seasonality.

Changes in employment totals and unemployment rate – three-month moving average

The following sections highlight statistics related to employment change by industry and occupation that are published as a three-month moving average for Vancouver; therefore, data published for December is an average of October, November, and December. Using this three-month moving average data, employment in December was 1,519,000 and the unemployment rate was 5.5%. The following chart shows the monthly change of employment and the unemployment rate using three-month moving average employment data.

Figure 2 – Unemployment rate and total employment change in Metro Vancouver, three-month moving average



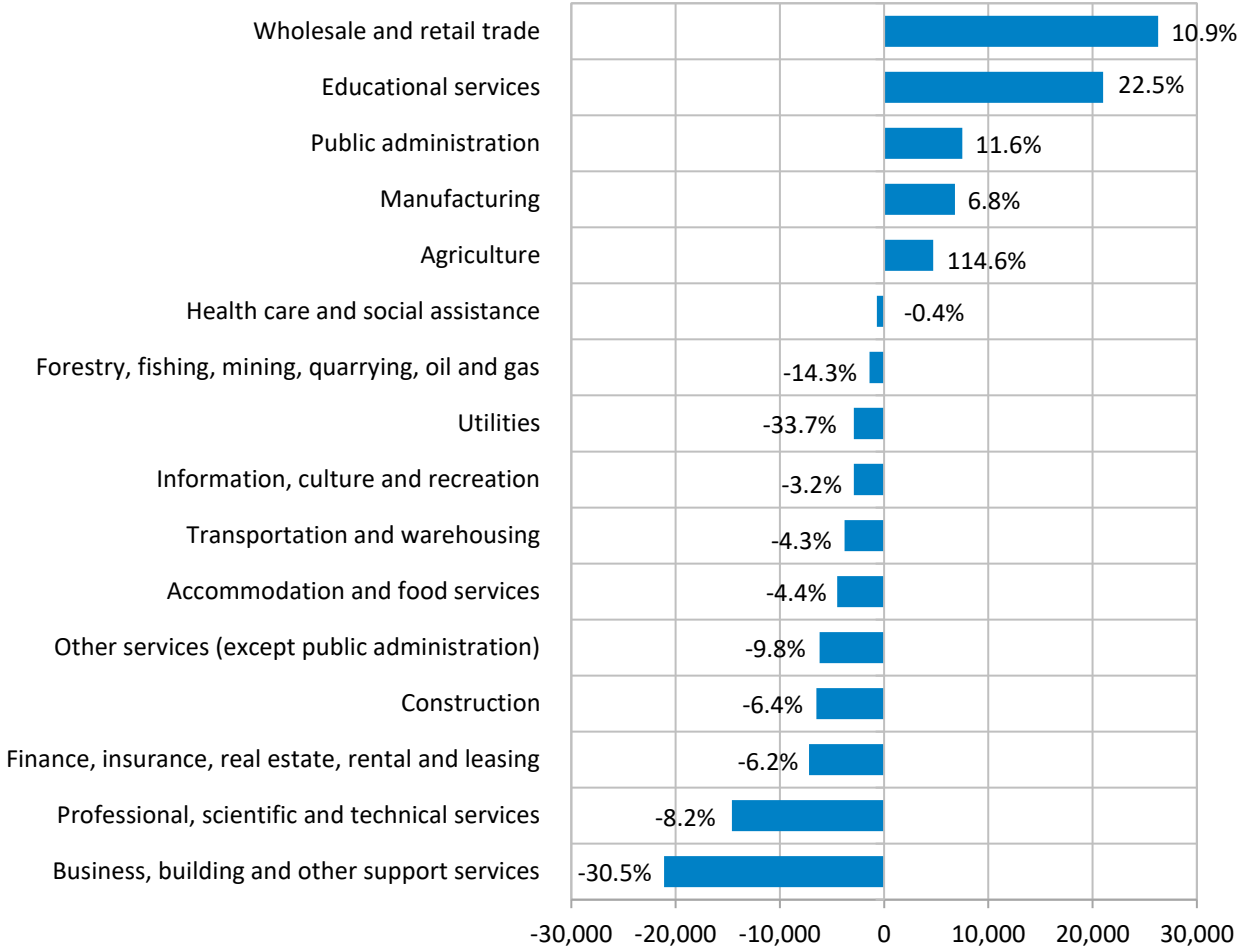
Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0380-01](#) Labour force characteristics by census metropolitan area, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.

Industry overview

Employment in the wholesale and retail trade industry experienced the largest three-month gain in Metro Vancouver, increasing by 26,300 workers (10.9%). The second largest employment

sector increase was in education services, which gained 21,000 workers (22.5%). The third largest employment gain was in public administration, which increased by 7,500 jobs (11.6%). Between September and December, the largest employment decline was in the business, building and other support services sector, which declined by 21,100 people, a decrease of -30.5% of its workforce. The second most losses were seen in professional, scientific and technical services, which declined by an additional 14,600 workers (-8.2%) between September and December. The finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing sector declined by 7,200 workers (-6.2%) over the three month period.

Figure 3 – Employment change by industry in Metro Vancouver, September to December

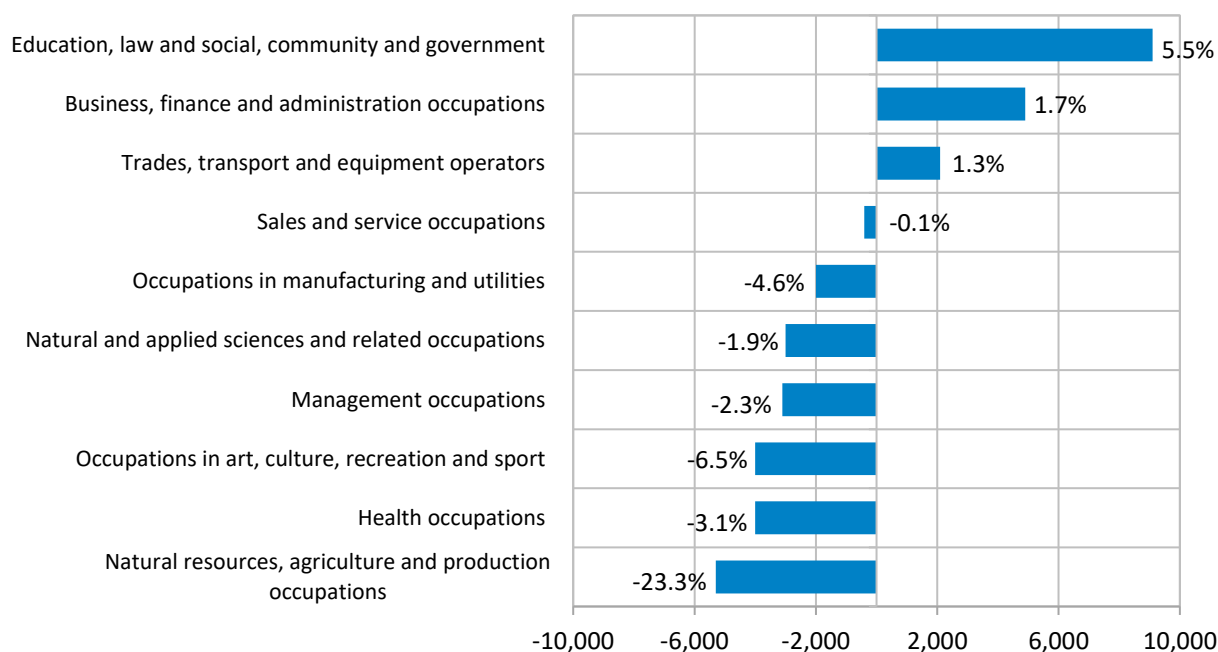


Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0379-01](#) Employment by industry, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

Occupation overview

Occupation employment data for Vancouver is published as a three-month moving average; therefore, data published for December is an average of October, November, and December. Employment in education, law and social, community and government occupations experienced the largest three-month gain in Metro Vancouver, increasing by 9,100 jobs (5.5%) between September and December. The second largest increase was in business, finance and administration occupations, which gained 4,900 workers (1.7%). The third largest employment gain was in trades, transport and equipment operators occupations, which increased by 2,100 jobs (1.3%). Between September and December, employment in natural resources, agriculture and production occupations experienced the largest decrease with 5,300 less workers (-23.3%). The second largest loss was attributed to health occupations, which experienced a decrease of 4,000 jobs (-3.1%). Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport declined the third most, with a loss of 4,000 (-6.5%).

Figure 4 – Employment change by occupations in Metro Vancouver, June to September

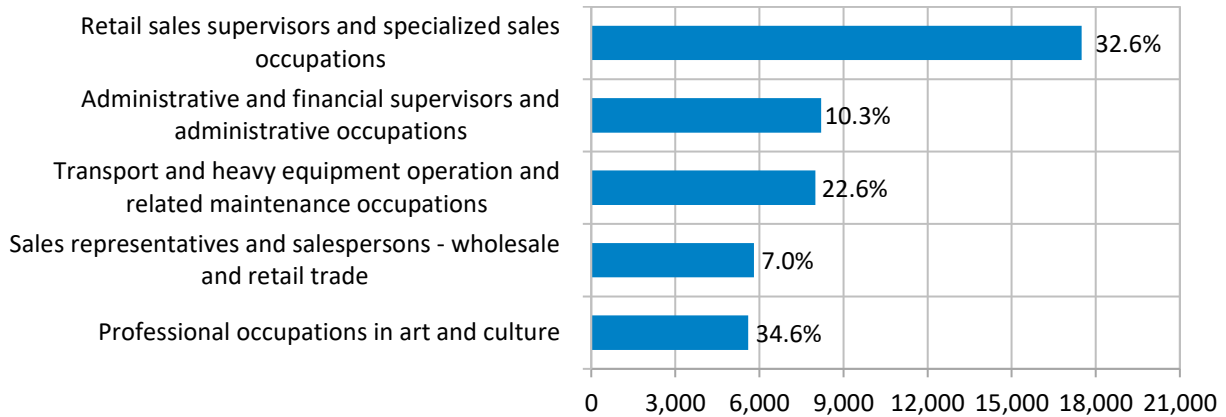


Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0381-01](#) Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

The largest increase in employment by detailed occupations was for retail sales supervisors and specialized sales occupations, which increased by 17,500 (+32.6%) workers between September and December. Other occupations with the most employment gains from September to December include:

- Administrative and financial supervisors and administrative occupations (+8,200; +10.3%)
- Transport and heavy equipment operation and related maintenance occupations (+8,000; +22.6%)
- Sales representatives and salespersons - wholesale and retail trade (+5,800; +7.0%)
- Professional occupations in art and culture (+5,600; +34.6%)

Figure 5 – Most employment gains by detailed occupation, September to December

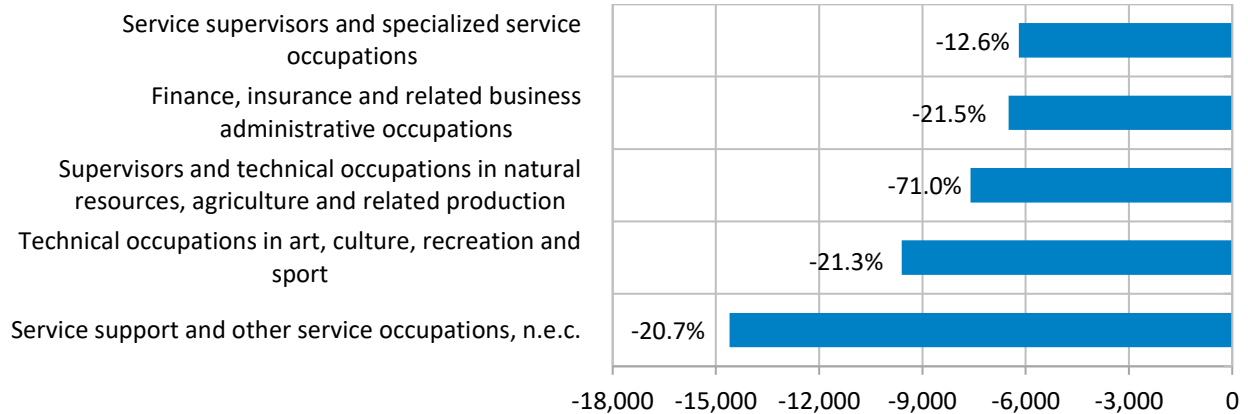


Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0381-01](#) Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

The largest decrease in employment by detailed occupations was for service support and other service occupations, n.e.c., which lost 14,600 (-20.7%) workers between September and December. Other occupations with significant employment losses include:

- Technical occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport (-9,600; -21.3%)
- Supervisors and technical occupations in natural resources, agriculture and related production (-7,600; -71%)
- Finance, insurance and related business administrative occupations (-6,500; -21.5%)
- Service supervisors and specialized service occupations (-6,200; -12.6%)

Figure 6 – Most employment loses by detailed occupation, September to December



Source: Statistics Canada. [Table 14-10-0381-01](#) Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

**n.e.c. refers to "not elsewhere classified", primarily concerned with the provision of services.*

Government orders

A number of major orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic have been issued by various levels of government since March 2020. Figure 7 lists new orders and announcements that have been issued over a three-month period from September 19th to December 18th, 2021. A full list of orders and announcements since March 2020 is reported in Appendix A.

Figure 7 – New labour and business-related Government orders and announcements issued from September 19th to December 18th, 2021

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|---|-------------------|---|
| SINCE PREVIOUS Reference Week | | |
| <i>Note: due to the September 20, 2021 federal election, the new Cabinet was sworn in October 26, 2021, and that Parliament did not return until November 22, 2021.</i> | | |
| Province of British Columbia Canada | October 8, 2021 | Joint \$270-million funding partnership between the provincial and federal governments for environmental infrastructure |
| Province of British Columbia | October 24, 2021 | COVID-19 capacity limits lifted as two-dose vaccine requirements begin |
| Province of British Columbia | November 17, 2021 | Provincial state of emergency declared |
| Province of British Columbia | November 18, 2021 | Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) available for those with flood damage |
| Province of British Columbia | November 19, 2021 | Fuel and travel restrictions introduced |
| Province of British Columbia | November 29, 2021 | Provincial state of emergency, fuel order extended |
| Province of British Columbia | December 13, 2021 | Provincial state of emergency extended |
| Province of British Columbia | December 17, 2021 | New COVID-19 measures introduced |
| Canada | December 17, 2021 | \$67 million for tourism and hospitality sector through Sectoral Initiatives Program (SIP) |
| Canada | December 17, 2021 | Bill C-2 receives Royal Assent (enabling): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit • The Local Lockdown Program • Extending the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit and the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit • The Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program • The Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program • Extending the Canada Recovery Hiring Program |

Upcoming LFS data and memo releases

As the statistics have shown a sustained return of overall employment to pre-pandemic levels, this memo will be the final memo in the series that began with the first memo to Council in March of 2020. PDS Staff will continue to monitor economic conditions and will report back to Council as needed.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me or Chris Robertson, Assistant Director, City-Wide & Regional Planning, at 604-873-7684 or chris.robertson@vancouver.ca.



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APPENDIX A – All labour and business-related Government orders and announcements up to the end of the previous reference week ending June 18th, 2021

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| PRIOR TO Reference Week | | |
| Province of British Columbia | March 12, 2020 | Gatherings of over 250 people prohibited |
| Canada | March 13, 2020 | Cruise ships with over 500 people prohibited from docking at any Canadian port |
| Province of British Columbia | March 16, 2020 | Gatherings of over 50 people prohibited |
| Canada | March 17, 2020 | Bank of Canada lowered the interest rate by 50 basis points to 0.75% |
| Canada | | Canada closed its border to non-citizens (with some exceptions); inbound travelers must self-isolate |
| City of Vancouver / Parks Board | | All VPL, Civic Theatre, and Park Board facilities closed |
| Province of British Columbia | | State of emergency declared |
| Province of British Columbia | | Those travelling on or after March 12 th must self-isolate |
| Province of British Columbia | | Order to shut down all restaurant and bar dine-in service |
| Province of British Columbia | | Notice to close casinos |
| Canada | | March 18, 2020 |
| Canada | 10% wage subsidy for small employers and non-profits for three months | |
| City of Vancouver | March 19, 2020 | State of emergency declared |
| Canada | March 20, 2020 | Canada-U.S. border closed to all non-essential travel starting March 20 th |
| City of Vancouver | | Order to shut down all restaurant table service starting March 20 th |
| Province of British Columbia | March 21, 2020 | Order to shut down personal service establishments (salons, spas, massage and tattoo parlors) |
| City of Vancouver | March 23, 2020 | Order to shut down personal service establishments (salons, spas, massage and tattoo parlors) |
| Province of British Columbia | | BC Emergency Benefit for Workers provides a tax-free \$1,000 payment starting May 1 st |
| Province of British Columbia | March 24, 2020 | School Tax reduction for businesses in property classes 4, 5, 6 |
| Canada | March 27, 2020 | Deferral of GST and HST tax payment, and taxes and duties owed on imports until June |
| Canada | | Bank of Canada lowered the interest rate by 25 basis points to 0.50% |
| Canada | | Canada Emergency Business Account provides up to \$25 billion to eligible financial institutions to offer \$40,000 interest-free loans to small businesses guaranteed and funded by the Government of Canada with up to \$10K forgivable. |
| Canada | March 27, 2020 Implemented April 27, 2020 | Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy: 75% wage subsidy up to \$847/week if applicant's business revenue has decreased by 30% because of Covid-19 |
| Canada | March 30, 2020 | Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Loan and Guarantee program that will enable up to \$40 billion in lending |
| Province of British Columbia | April 1, 2020 | BC Hydro announces series of targeted bill relief programs across all customer types |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Province of British Columbia | April 2, 2020 | \$300 monthly top-up for income assistance or disability assistance |
| City of Vancouver | April 3, 2020 | COVID-19 Business Communications and Support Office launched to assist local businesses |
| Province of British Columbia | April 8, 2020 | Emergency Relief Support Fund providing \$225 per month for parents of children with special needs |
| Province of British Columbia | April 9, 2020 | Temporary rental supplement of \$300 per month for eligible households with no dependents (\$500 with dependents) |
| Province of British Columbia | | Residential rental eviction ban |
| Province of British Columbia | April 14, 2020 | Requirement for 14-day self-isolation for all temporary foreign workers arriving in BC for seasonal farm work |
| Province of British Columbia | April 15, 2020 | Provincial state of emergency is extended to April 28 th |
| Province of British Columbia | | Additional services for commercial truck drivers |
| Province of British Columbia | April 16, 2020 | Further reduction to school property tax rate for commercial properties, enhancement to 50% reduction to provincial school property tax rate that was originally announced for classes 4, 5, and 6 |
| Province of British Columbia | | Postponing the date that late payment penalties apply for commercial properties in classes 4,5,6,7 and 8 to Oct. 1, 2020 |
| Canada / Province of British Columbia | | The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program (CECRA) to provide 75% commercial rent relief to tenants |
| Canada | April 17, 2020 | \$675 million for small and medium-sized businesses through Canada's Regional Development Agencies |
| Canada | | \$500 million in funding for Culture, Heritage and Sports |
| Canada | April 18, 2020 | \$306.8 million in funding to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses |
| Translink | April 20, 2020 | TransLink has announced almost 1,500 layoffs and reduced services to save costs. |
| Canada | April 21, 2020 | \$350 million in emergency funds for community groups and national charities |
| Canada | April 23, 2020 | Medical and Research Strategy announced including \$1.1 billion in funding for research into vaccines and treatments, and national testing and modelling. |
| City of Vancouver | April 29, 2020 | Property tax payment deadline for both residential and commercial delayed from July 3 to October 30, 2020 |
| Province of British Columbia | May 1, 2020 | B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers provides a one-time, tax-free payment of \$1,000 |
| Canada | May 5, 2020 | \$252 million to support for agricultural-food industry with implementing measures to comply with sanitary requirements and maintain food supply |
| Province of British Columbia | May 6, 2020 Implemented May 19, 2020 | B.C.'s Restart Plan announced to lift restrictions in phases, gradually allowing for more social and economic activity. Phase 2, which will begin in May 19, includes: opening regulated health services and more non-essential businesses |
| Canada | May 7, 2020 | Up to \$3 billion in wage top-up for essential workers announced. |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Canada | May 11, 2020 | Announced large employer emergency financing facility (LEEFF) providing bridge financing to employers with annual revenues of more than \$300 million |
| Canada | | Expansion of the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) to mid-sized companies with larger financing needs. Support for mid-market businesses includes loans up to \$60 million, and guarantees up to \$80 million |
| Canada | May 12, 2020 | \$3 billion for infrastructure projects to make facilities more pandemic-resistant and encourage outdoor activities. Projects must be completed in 2021. |
| Canada | May 14, 2020 | New Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) devotes nearly \$962 million to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism and others that are key regional and local economic drivers. |
| Canada | May 15, 2020 | Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) will be extended by another 3 months (to end of August) to support businesses in re-opening plans |
| Canada | | \$450 million to help researchers and research institutions impacted by the pandemic |
| Province of British Columbia | May 19, 2020 | Pandemic pay for front line health and social workers. |
| Canada | | Expansion to the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to include many owner-operated small businesses |
| Province of British Columbia | May 22, 2020 | Authorize expansion of patio service area through simplified licensing process |
| Canada | May 25, 2020 | Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) opens for applications |
| Province of British Columbia | | \$10M grant for tourism marketing organization |
| Province of British Columbia | June 1, 2020 | \$7.5M for music industry through Creative BC for Amplify BC. |
| Province of British Columbia | | Commercial eviction ban extended through the month of July |
| City of Vancouver | June 1, 2020 | Launched the Temporary Expedited Patio Program, which permits restaurants and liquor-serving establishments to set up temporary patios using street, on-street parking and sidewalk space in front or next to their business for free. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 2, 2020 | In-class instruction re-opens |
| Province of British Columbia | June 5, 2020 | Closed hospitality businesses allowed to sell stock |
| Province of British Columbia | June 10, 2020 | State of Emergency extended through the end of the day on June 23, 2020 |
| Canada | June 11, 2020 | \$133M for Indigenous businesses |
| City of Vancouver | June 12, 2020 | City to introduce pop-up plazas, parklets and issues 47 temporary expedited patio permits and expands program to patios on private property to support ongoing recovery efforts |
| Province of British Columbia | | Better access to gaming grants program for non-profits |
| Province of British Columbia | | BC Arts Council second half of operating grants released |
| Canada | June 16, 2020 | CERB extended from 16 weeks to 24 weeks for workers |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Province of British Columbia | | Temporary emergency funding program (TEF) for licensed child care centres is being extended until Aug 31, 2020 |
| Province of British Columbia | | Approval of temporary wholesale pricing for those with liquor licenses |
| Canada | June 17, 2020 | \$500M additional R&D funding through Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's (NSERC) Discovery Grant program. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 19, 2020 | Extended the temporary rental supplement (TRS) until the end of August 2020 to support landlords and tenants |
| Province of British Columbia | June 20, 2020 | Extension of electricity costs for industries that have been impacted by COVID-19 |
| Province of British Columbia | June 24, 2020 | BC enters Phase 3 of the Restart Plan, including the return of travel and tourism within the province. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 25, 2020 | Applications open from local governments, community groups and First Nations for nearly \$160 million in infrastructure grants to help strengthen communities throughout British Columbia. |
| | | Extension of the temporary layoffs provisions to a maximum of 24 weeks expiring on Aug. 30, 2020 |
| Canada | | Program launched to encourage students to volunteer in the fight against COVID-19. Post-secondary students will be eligible to earn up to \$5,000 this summer through a new volunteer service grant. |
| Canada | July 2, 2020 | Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program extended for an additional month, through July |
| Province of British Columbia | July 2, 2020 | Emergency order protecting eligible businesses from being evicted extended through July in alignment with federal CECRA extension |
| City of Vancouver | July 3, 2020 | Over 180 temporary patio permits issued |
| Province of British Columbia | July 7, 2020 | Extended State of Emergency to July 21 |
| Canada | July 14, 2020 | Travel restrictions at the Canada-U.S. border will be extended into August as the COVID-19 pandemic continues |
| Canada | July 16, 2020 | Announced investment of over \$19 billion (was previously \$14 billion) through the Safe Restart Agreement with provinces and territories to protect health, get Canadians back to work and prep for possible second wave |
| Province of British Columbia | | \$2 billion from the Safe Re-Start Agreement will be coming from the federal government to support the province's restart plan |
| Canada | July 17, 2020 Implemented: August 17, 2020 | Announced changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) that would extend the program until the end of the year and open it to employers who had any drop in revenue can now qualify. |
| City of Vancouver | July 24, 2020 | Over 280 temporary patio permits issued |
| City of Vancouver | July 31, 2020 | Community Centres set to open Sept 8th |
| Canada | July 31, 2020 | Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) extended through August. |
| Province of British Columbia | July 16, 2020 | Rental repayment framework protects renters by ensuring they cannot be evicted for a missed or late rent payment from March 18 to Aug. 17, unless a renter defaults on their repayment plan. |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Province of British Columbia | August 4, 2020 | State of Emergency extended until August 18th |
| Province of British Columbia | August 5, 2020 | Additional \$2 million in funding for the CleanBC Specialty-Use Vehicle Incentive (SUVI) program |
| City of Vancouver | August 6, 2020 | Approves over \$4.85M of grants repurposed to help community organizations recover |
| Canada | August 13, 2020 | Additional \$31 million for quick recovery actions in communities through the Canada Healthy Cities Initiative. |
| City of Vancouver | August 14, 2020 | Over 360 temporary patio permits have been issued and expands public space on Robson Street |
| Province of British Columbia | August 17, 2020 | The Province's temporary COVID-19 Crisis Supplement that has been provided since April will be extended for an additional four months |
| Province of British Columbia | | \$2-million Arts Infrastructure Program for arts and culture venues |
| Province of British Columbia | August 18, 2020 | Improvements to Workers Compensation Act |
| Province of British Columbia | | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | August 20, 2020 | The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) has extended by four weeks for a total of 28 weeks |
| City of Vancouver | August 21, 2020 | Vancouver Police Department (VPD) give authority to enforce provincial health orders |
| Province of British Columbia | | \$2,000 violations can be issued for owners or organizers contravening the provincial health orders on gatherings and events |
| Canada | August 26, 2020 | \$2 billion for Safe Return to Class initiative |
| Canada | | Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) now applies to any revenue drop |
| City of Vancouver/ Parks Board | August 31, 2020 | Vancouver Aquarium closing to public indefinitely and laying off 209 staff starting Sept 8 th |
| Province of British Columbia | September 1, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | September 2, 2020 | The application deadline for CEBA has been extended until the end of November |
| Province of British Columbia | September 3, 2020 | Broadway Subway design and build contract project awarded to the Broadway Subway Project Corporation |
| Province of British Columbia | | Maximum allowable housing rent increase set at 1.4% for 2021 |
| City of Vancouver | September 4, 2020 | Announcing the opening of more than 50 recreation facilities over the next six weeks |
| Canada | September 9, 2020 | The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program extended for the final time into October |
| Canada | | Black Entrepreneurship Program to support Black business owners and entrepreneurs |
| Province of British Columbia | | \$1.6 billion fall and winter preparedness plan strengthen measures that respond to the health-care requirements of COVID-19 |
| Province of British Columbia | September 14, 2020 | \$2 million to launch the new Domestic Motion Picture Fund |
| Province of British Columbia | September 15, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| Province of British Columbia | September 17, 2020 | Stronger BC for Everyone: BC's Economic Recovery Plan includes \$1.5 billion in economic recovery spending |
| Province of British Columbia | September 18, 2020 | TransLink will receive \$644 million under the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement. |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Province of British Columbia | September 19, 2020 | Community-based sports groups facing the risk of closing are encouraged to apply for support from the Province's \$1.5-million Local Sport Relief Fund |
| Province of British Columbia | | The CleanBC Building Innovation Fund (CBBIF) to provide funding for 13 projects throughout the Province and an additional \$8 million for a second intake as part of British Columbia's Economic Recovery Plan |
| Canada | September 21, 2020 | TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries will share more than \$1 billion under the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement |
| City of Vancouver | September 22, 2020 | Employment Lands and Economy Review provides quick-start actions to support the City's COVID-19 Recovery Program, as well as emerging policy directions to help Vancouver support jobs, businesses, and the future growth of our economy |
| Canada | September 24, 2020 | Announcement of the three new Recovery Benefits for workers not eligible for EI |
| Canada | September 25, 2020 | Announcement of Canada-wide early learning and child care system |
| | | More accessible and flexible EI system announced |
| City of Vancouver | | Extension of benefit of furloughed employees under the wage subsidy program for the upcoming four-week period, from October 27 to November 24, 2020. |
| | | Launching a new one-time grants program to provide financial and in-kind support to the arts and culture sector |
| Province of British Columbia | September 29, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | October 2, 2020 | Additional \$600 million to support workers and businesses through RRRF. This means an additional \$263.7 million for Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) |
| | | border restrictions that remain in place and enhancing quarantine monitoring |
| Canada | October 5, 2020 | Applications open for the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB), and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB). |
| Canada | October 7, 2020 | New interest relief measure to provide help to Canada Student Loan borrowers on medical or parental leave |
| Canada | October 9, 2020 | CERS updated to provide rent and mortgage support directly to tenants until June 2021, with a 25% top up for organizations having to shut down due to public health orders |
| | | CEBA expanded to an additional \$20,000 to eligible businesses and not-for-profits Application deadline extended to end of year |
| City of Vancouver | | Temporary patios may continue to operate throughout winter until November 31, 2021 |
| Canada | October 12, 2020 | Applications for the Canada Recovery Benefit open |
| Province of British Columbia | October 13, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | October 20, 2020 | \$12 million for the Canada United Small Business Relief Fund |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Canada | | \$100 million over four years to support oil and gas sector job growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) |
| City of Vancouver | October 22, 2020 | Employment Lands and Economy Review provides quick-start actions to support the City's COVID-19 Recovery Program, and policy direction to support jobs, businesses, and guide economic growth through the Vancouver Plan |
| City of Vancouver | October 23, 2020 | City launches online application to extend temporary patios |
| Canada | October 26, 2020 | Canada Emergency Business Account open to businesses using personal banking accounts |
| Canada | October 27, 2020 | University of British Columbia's energy-efficiency initiative receives a boost through the Low Carbon Economy Fund |
| Province of British Columbia | | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | October 30, 2020 | 2021–2023 Immigration Levels Plan sets out a path for increases to immigration targets to help the Canadian economy recover |
| | | \$796,000 in funding from the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) through the Pandemic Response Challenge program |
| Canada | November 9, 2020 | Connecting British Columbia to high-speed Internet with the Universal Broadband Fund |
| Province of British Columbia | | Rent freeze extended until July 10, 2021 and pending increases cancelled under the powers of the Emergency Program Act and COVID-19 Related Measures Act. |
| Province of British Columbia | November 10, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| | | New health orders to restrict gatherings and events |
| Canada | November 12, 2020 | \$4 million to support 53 new projects under the EcoAction Community Funding Program. |
| Canada | November 13, 2020 | \$1,560,000 in support will help two BC projects focused on audiovisual, interactive digital media, visual art and design |
| | | Government of Canada moves forward on pay equity to help address wage gaps in federally regulated workplaces |
| | | \$1.7 million for business ecosystem support in BC through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) for seven organizations. |
| Province of British Columbia | November 13, 2020 | Province updates measures to enforce Lower Mainland COVID-19 public safety |
| City of Vancouver | November 24, 2020 | \$2.05 million in critical support grants to more than a hundred arts and culture organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19. |
| City of Vancouver | November 25, 2020 | Empty Homes Tax rate increased to 3% for 2021 tax year. |
| City of Vancouver | December 4, 2020 | Interim safety and design upgrades to Beach Avenue to provide additional space during the pandemic. |
| Canada | December 18, 2020 | Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) rate increase to 75 per cent to help businesses in the beginning of the new year. |
| Province of British Columbia | December 22, 2020 | The Emergency Program Act (EPA) has capped fees on food delivery services at 15% |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Province of British Columbia | December 22, 2020 | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | December 23, 2020 | Health Canada authorizes Moderna COVID-19 vaccine |
| Canada | December 31, 2020 | Pre-departure COVID-19 testing and negative results to be required for all air travellers coming to Canada |
| Province of British Columbia | January 5, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| Canada | January 8, 2021 | New policy to help former international students live and work in Canada |
| Province of British Columbia | January 19, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| City of Vancouver | January 19, 2021 | \$8,406,150 in grants approved to 144 cultural organizations to help them continue providing critical programs and services. |
| Province of British Columbia | January 22, 2021 | 26 arts and culture groups in the Lower Mainland to receive over \$1 million to improve space or buy equipment |
| Canada | January 22, 2021 | Sectoral Initiatives Program to fund \$72 million over three years to support sector-specific projects to help workers gain skills and access resources |
| Canada | January 26, 2021 | The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) with Canadian financial institutions will offer guaranteed, low-interest loans up to \$1 million to businesses that have year-over-year revenue decline of at least 50% |
| Canada | January 29, 2021 | All flights to and from Mexico and Caribbean countries are suspended until April 30, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | February 2, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| Province of British Columbia | February 2, 2021 | Broadway Subway Project kicks off with site preparations |
| Canada | February 3, 2021 | Minister of Infrastructure and Communities sets five new priorities for the Canada Infrastructure Bank: public transit, green infrastructure, trade and transport, broadband, and clean power |
| Canada | February 4, 2021 | Government of Canada announces one-year ban for pleasure craft and cruise vessels entering arctic waters until February 28, 2022 |
| Canada | February 5, 2021 | The Regional Relief and Recovery Fund offers an additional \$20,000 for eligible small businesses |
| Province of British Columbia | February 5, 2021 | \$20 million towards reskilling program to help British Columbians return to work |
| City of Vancouver | February 9, 2021 | \$2.1 million approved in funding for the City's Street Cleaning Grant program |
| Canada | February 11, 2021 | Government of Canada invests in Canadian clean technology innovations |
| Canada | February 12, 2021 | All travellers entering Canada will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result on arrival. Air travellers will be required to stay in a government-authorized hotel for 3-nights. |
| Province of British Columbia | February 16, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| City of Vancouver | March 1, 2021 | City accepting applications for temporary patios on public property for the April 1 to October 31, 2021, patio season |
| City of Vancouver | March 3, 2021 | City accepting applications for the second round of the Vancouver Music Fund providing support to Indigenous and underrepresented musicians, artists, and groups in Vancouver's music sector |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Canada | March 3, 2021 | Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) extended at current rates (75% for CEWS and 65% for CERS) until June 2021 |
| Canada | March 3, 2021 | Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)'s Innovation Fund announced, supporting 40% of eligible infrastructure costs of an institution's research project; the funding will go to 35 post-secondary institutions |
| Province of British Columbia | March 4, 2021 | B.C. government has extended the deadline for the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant program from March 31, 2021, to August 31, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | March 8, 2021 | Construction begins for new St. Paul's Hospital |
| City of Vancouver | March 9, 2021 | Council approved \$9,000,730 of grants for funding social service organizations that support reconciliation, equity and inclusion, gender equity, housing stability, poverty reduction, childcare, and the overdose crisis |
| Province of British Columbia | March 12, 2021 | Liquor-primary and food-primary licensees are permanently allowed to sell and deliver sealed, packaged liquor products alongside the purchase of a meal for off-site consumption |
| Province of British Columbia | March 16, 2021 | B.C. state of emergency extended through the end of the day on March 30, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | March 17, 2021 | B.C. government is investing an additional \$30 million in the Launch Online Grant program |
| Province of British Columbia | March 18, 2021 | Front-line workers prioritized as COVID-19 vaccine rollout accelerates |
| Canada | March 24, 2021 | The Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) deadline for application extended to June |
| Province of British Columbia | March 24, 2021 | B.C. government to provide \$14 million in new one-time supplements to 588 arts and culture organizations and an additional \$2 million to help 47 organizations improve their existing spaces |
| Province of British Columbia | March 29, 2021 | Three week circuit-breaker restrictions announced, indoor dining and adult fitness activities prohibited among other regulations through April 19, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | March 30, 2021 | Commercial recreation operators that hold Land Act tenures or Park Act permits to have annual base rent paid to the Province waived for one year |
| Province of British Columbia | March 30, 2021 | B.C. state of emergency is extended through the end of the day on April 13, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | April 1, 2021 | B.C. government has made regulatory improvements under the Employment Standards Act to quickly bring in a job-protected leave to allow part-time and full-time workers to take the time needed to travel and receive their COVID-19 vaccination or to take a dependent family member to receive the vaccine |
| Province of British Columbia | April 1, 2021 | B.C. government launches Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant program to provide funding to small and medium supply-chain and manufacturing businesses |
| Province of British Columbia | April 6, 2021 | B.C.'s COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan to include a cross-government approach to help all aspects of the tourism industry recover, create jobs and grow the economy |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Province of British Columbia | April 7, 2021 | B.C. government announces \$4.2-million investment in mass timber demonstration projects and research to promote adoption of mass timber building systems |
| Province of British Columbia | April 8, 2021 | B.C. government will provide more than \$50 million to help 14,000 restaurants, bars, breweries, wineries, gyms and fitness centres affected by the March 30, 2021 provincial health orders. |
| Province of British Columbia | April 9, 2021 | B.C. government announces that the lower liquor server minimum wage is to be replaced with the general minimum wage of \$15.20 an hour as of June 1, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | April 10, 2021 | Commercial producers in B.C. who grow vegetables, ornamental flowers and plants, forest seedlings and nursery plants in greenhouses are eligible to apply for the carbon tax relief grants until May 10, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | April 13, 2021 | B.C. government commits three years of funding for Amplify B.C. with \$22.5 million dedicated to the province's music industry to cover operating costs and adapt to the challenges of the pandemic |
| Province of British Columbia | April 13, 2021 | B.C. state of emergency is extended through the end of the day on April 27, 2021 |
| Province of British Columbia | April 13, 2021 | B.C. government to provide more than 5,000 youth and young adults across the province with access to skills training and well-paid jobs through approximately \$45-million of funding for the StrongerBC Future Leaders Program |
| Canada | April 19, 2021 | 2021-2022 Federal budget announced including planned extensions to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS), Lockdown Support for CERS, Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) extensions and the addition of a new Canada Recovery Hiring Benefit. |
| Province of British Columbia | April 20, 2021 | 2021 B.C. budget tabled |
| Province of British Columbia | April 23, 2021 | B.C. introduces provincial non-essential travel restrictions that prohibit non-essential travel between three regional zones in the province, using health authority boundaries. |
| Province of British Columbia | April 26, 2021 | \$75 million to the Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant |
| Province of British Columbia | April 27, 2021 | \$500-million investment fund to support the operations of InBC Investment Corp. (InBC). |
| Province of British Columbia | | State of emergency extended |
| Province of British Columbia | April 28, 2021 | Amendments to the Employment Standards Act providing workers with up to three hours of paid leave to get each dose of their COVID-19 vaccine comes into effect, retroactive to April 19, 2021. |
| Province of British Columbia | May 11, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| Province of British Columbia | May 18, 2021 | New \$50-million BC Major Anchor Attractions Program opens |
| City of Vancouver | May 21, 2021 | Council waives 2021 patio permit fees |
| Province of British Columbia | May 25, 2021 | B.C. launches restart plan to guide loosening of restrictions through four steps. |
| Province of British Columbia | May 27, 2021 | B.C. launches a COVID-19 safety certificate program, called BSAFE, for workers in the tourism and hospitality sectors. |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Canada | | Through Western Diversification Canada, \$8.3 million for tourism business support organizations including Destination BC, Metro Vancouver Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Tourism Industry Association of British Columbia |
| Province of British Columbia | June 4, 2021 | B.C. expands and extends Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant |
| Province of British Columbia | June 8, 2021 | State of emergency extended |
| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
| Province of British Columbia | June 9, 2021 | B.C. invests \$15 million in the Innovator Skills Initiative (ISI) to prioritize under-represented people in the technology sector. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 15, 2021 | Step 2 of restart plan. Resumption of travel within B.C. |
| | | Temporary patios may now be made permanent (must meet local bylaws). |
| Canada | June 18, 2021 | Canada announces expansion of the Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot expediting the process for skilled refugees to become permanent residents. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 22, 2021 | The Province extends BC Hydro's Customer Crisis Fund. |
| Canada | June 23, 2021 | \$500 million Canada Community Revitalization Fund launches |
| Canada | June 24, 2021 | \$5.5 million Shop Local investment benefiting small businesses in British Columbia |
| Province of British Columbia | June 29, 2021 | Move to Phase 3 of Restart Plan will occur June 30, 2021. Includes the repeal or softening of many of the public health restrictions on businesses. |
| Province of British Columbia | June 29, 2021 | Repeal of workplace safety plan order |
| Canada | July 7, 2021 | The Pay Equity Act will come into force on August 31, 2021 |
| Canada | July 20, 2021 | Canada Child Benefit annual maximum will be increased for 2021-2022 benefit year |
| Canada | July 30, 2021 | Canada Student Financial Assistance program begins August 1st |
| Canada | August 4, 2021 | \$20 million investment in clean tech, digital economy, health sciences, and value-added agriculture |
| Canada | August 11, 2021 | Federal-provincial partnership established with B.C. to advance an integrated cleantech market |
| Canada | August 13, 2021 | Extension to Early Learning and Child Care Agreement: \$48.8 million in 2021–2022 to support early childhood educator recruitment and retention, and over \$272 million in funding over four years |
| Canada | August 15, 2021 | Election called for September 20. Parliament dissolved. No new announcements during this period. |
| Province of British Columbia | August 17, 2021 | Provincial state of emergency extended (due to fires) |
| Province of British Columbia | August 23, 2021 | Repeal of travellers and employers order |
| Province of British Columbia | August 27, 2021 | Fairs, Festivals and Events Recovery Fund launched. |

| Government | Date declared | Announcements/Orders |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Province of British Columbia | September 10, 2021 | Public Health Order for proof of vaccination for food and liquor serving premises, and gathering and event spaces. |
| Province of British Columbia | September 13, 2021 | BC Vaccine Card in effect throughout British Columbia |

APPENDIX B – Additional City of Vancouver Resources

Additional Data Sources: Employment Lands and Economy Review

The Employment Lands and Economy Review team has also prepared 30 fact sheets using a variety of data sources detailing the economic structure of the city of Vancouver and the role of the city within the regional economy. These fact sheets are available on the City's website here: <https://vancouver.ca/employment-lands>.

City of Vancouver business support webpage

On Friday, April 3rd, 2020, City staff established the COVID-19 Business Communications and Support Office (BCSO) to assist local businesses at this critical time. The office is a single point of contact for Vancouver's local business owners to get information from the City of Vancouver regarding business support programs, to learn what City-run business services are currently available, and to make suggestions to the City concerning business and the economy. The webpage is available here: <https://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/covid-19-coronavirus-support-for-local-businesses.aspx>.

Staff in the City-Wide & Regional Planning division of the Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability department are supporting the BCSO, ensuring that information for business remains current and accessible, responding directly to questions by e-mail as well as assisting with developing resources for responding to concerns raised by local business operators.

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