

ISSUE

01

June
2021

Quarterly
Update from
Karin Kirkpatrick MLA
West Vancouver- Capilano

Karin Kirkpatrick



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What's New in Karin's World

I am honoured to have been elected provincial representative for West Vancouver-Capilano in the October 2020 B.C. general election. Since being sworn in last November, I've been getting to know constituents, community groups and stakeholders by phone or video conference. I am pleased to announce, however, that I can now offer in-person meetings in my constituency office. Please email or phone to plan an appointment. While "zoom" and "teams" are useful methods of communicating, I am looking forward to face to face interactions!

Although I've lived in this riding for many years, these past seven months have given me a much deeper insight into the people and groups that serve our community. I continue to be impressed with their level of commitment and passion. I will be highlighting some of them in this, my inaugural, newsletter.

I am also pleased to be hearing from constituents daily, learning about their issues and concerns. It is very much an education process for me, and I enjoy listening to, and helping my constituents whenever I can.

In addition to constituency work, I've also been in the Legislature in Victoria since March, learning all about how the government operates, and my role in it. One of my favourite things is delivering 2-minute statements in the House, where I am given the opportunity to highlight constituents and community groups my riding.

The Legislature resumes at the beginning of October, so I am officially home for the summer. During the months ahead, I will endeavour to meet more constituents and hopefully attend community events as they start up again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karin Kirkpatrick". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karin

Videos

We've celebrated some meaningful dates over the past few months, including Chinese Language Day, and Earth Day.

On Chinese Language Day, my daughter and I released a video discussing the importance of the Chinese language, and our own progress studying mandarin!

On Earth Day, I posted a video discussing some of the wonderful gardening options here on the North Shore.

I also featured the Capilano suspension bridge in another video showcasing some of the attractions in the riding and I encourage all to visit this incredible landmark within our community!

You can watch the videos where we celebrate special days, showcase our community, or highlight my work in the Legislative Assembly on my youtube channel [Karin Kirkpatrick MLA](#).

You can also watch select videos by clicking the links below.

[Karin Kirkpatrick at the Capilano Suspension Bridge](#)

[Earth Day Garden Tour with Karin Kirkpatrick](#)



West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society

I've had the honour of meeting with the West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society and learning about the fantastic work they do to monitor and care for our creeks and tributaries, restore fish habitat, and educate the community on our valuable creek resources.

Last year the Streamkeepers completed an extensive 170k project installing a fish ladder at the mouth of Nelson Creek. Within a week of completion, the chum salmon were using the newly built ladder, and the Creek was once again alive with salmon.

This year the Streamkeeper's new project is focused on creating 70m of new fish habitat. A portion of the creek flow in the flume on Lawson Creek is being redirected through the park to create a new creek path where salmon can spawn. A new small pedestrian bridge will be built over the creek to allow for observation and education throughout the year. In addition to spawning habitat, this will also

provide rearing habitat for juvenile coho salmon as well as home to resident cutthroat trout.

In May volunteers released 100,000 chum salmon fry from the hatchery on Nelson Creek, and at the end of June released 22,000 coho salmon fry into local creeks. The work of the West Vancouver Streamkeepers ensures that future generations will be able to enjoy healthy pacific salmon stocks. I look forward to supporting the Streamkeeper's future endeavours, and encourage you to learn more at www.westvancouverstreamkeepers.ca

Harry Jerome Oval

In February the West Vancouver Place for Sport announced that the new running track at West Vancouver Secondary School will be named in honour of Harry Jerome. This outstanding individual was named British Columbia's male athlete of the 20th Century, and is a recipient of the Order of Canada.

Harry Jerome grew up on the North Shore and trained at the West Van Track in the 1950's. A new generation of youth will be able to follow in his footsteps and

In the Community

Groups in West and North Vancouver have been keeping busy

reach new heights in their athletic ambitions.

The new facility will be the first of its kind to be built in West Vancouver, and we are excited to see the development of a space where the community can come together.

For more information or to donate go to <https://wvpfs.org/>

Rotary Ride for Rescue

The 10th annual Rotary ride for Rescue ended on June 12th. This major fundraising event raises funds to support North Shore Rescue, Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue, and other Rotary humanitarian projects. This year they exceeded their goal and raised over \$67,000.

As with most fundraising events, this year was unique from previous years. Participants completed the ride up Cypress Mountain on their own time or they participated in a virtual ride from a stationary bike in the comfort of their own home. I thank all participants for their efforts – well done! For more information or to donate www.rotaryrideforrescue.org

In the Community cont'd

Cypress Mountain Coaster

Cypress Mountain has a new attraction coming this summer and I'm looking forward to welcoming locals and guests alike to enjoy the new ride! The Mountain Coaster will take off from the top of Eagle Express Quad Chair on Black Mountain and travel over 1,700 metres with 279 meters of vertical drop. It will be a fun activity for people of all ages to enjoy throughout the summer months. With the opening in July I'm looking forward to a little fun on the hill!

West Vancouver Foundation

The West Vancouver Foundation has been making an impact since 1979 and is considered one of the top 30 community foundations in Canada. The Foundation is a leader in community-based philanthropy, and works directly with families, individuals, and other charities to support the community.

Since April 2020 the Foundation has distributed over \$750,000 to essential charities and initiatives through the North Shore COVID-19 Response Fund, the GOC Emergency Community Support FUND, and generous community grants from WV fundholders.

Through the North Shore Covid-19 response 35 grants were provided for programs including: meal programs for low-income and vulnerable seniors, crisis and counselling services, at risk youth outreach, and addiction recovery.

Through their leadership, scholarship, community and micro grants, and more, the Foundation is working to sustain a healthy, vibrant West Vancouver, where everyone is valued, contributes, and feels they belong.

June is ALS Awareness month Greg Gowe

Amotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a terminal disease of progressive paralysis which reduces an individual's ability to move, speak, and breathe. Greg Gowe from North Vancouver says "this disease can move with startling swiftness: four out of five people die within two to five years of their diagnosis, which gives the ALS community no choice but to measure time not by months or years, but by loss – loss of function and loss of life." Greg is a passionate, committed advocate for more ALS research and for committed funding for Project Hope.

West Vancouver Library

Chromebooks are ideal in their simplicity for seniors who need an easy-to-use device, families who need an extra device for at-home schooling, people who are experiencing poverty, and those who need an extra device to work at home. Library cardholders can check out Chromebooks for a 12-week loan period and use the devices to connect with friends and family online, check email, browse the internet, attend a video job interview, access online classes and lots more. 10-15% of the North Shore's population does not have home access to technology, and the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced the ability of libraries to provide public access to technology. West Vancouver Memorial Library received a one-time technology grant from the Province of British Columbia to enhance digital services and technologies. After reviewing community needs, the library moved forward with the purchase of 25 new Chromebooks available for lending. The West Vancouver Library continues to serve an important role making our community more healthy, informed, and equitable.



Please support your local restaurants! I recently visited Feast in Dundarave for a wonderful dinner on the patio. Their fried chicken is the best!

2423 Marine Drive, West Vancouver
<https://www.feastdining.ca/>

(604) 922-1155

Canada Day

Canada Day marks the anniversary of Canadian Confederation that took place 154 years ago.

As we honour this day, let's reflect on what it means to each of us and what it means to be Canadian.

We have so much as a nation to celebrate, but we also have much to reflect and work on.

Now, more than ever, it is time to stand by each other as a nation.

The mistreatment of Indigenous children is a shameful part of Canada's history.

I am profoundly saddened by the discovery of 215 bodies of children found around the Kamloops Residential School.

My thoughts are with all Indigenous communities across Canada. This discovery reflects a dark chapter in our country's history.

Karin

Recognition and Retirements

Len Goerke – Retirement from WVPD

We congratulated and said goodbye to Len Goerke on his retirement in February following six and a half years as West Vancouver Chief Constable in the West Vancouver Police Department. Len has worked tirelessly for his community; he dedicated his career to ensuring the well-being and safety of West Vancouver and beyond. Len's passion and commitment to his work are enshrined in his approach to policing, and in the legacy he is leaving behind.

His retirement was celebrated at the end of March, and we thank him for his service to the WVPD and the community, and wish him all the best in his next chapter.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2021!

You've endured a challenging year and have persevered. Congratulations on your achievements and well earned success.

WVFR – Captain Wilkinson Retirement

I'd like to acknowledge and thank Captain Wilkinson, who on April 24 retired from the West Vancouver Fire Rescue. Captain Wilkinson was a founding member of the WV Honour Guard and has dedicated 30 years to serving the community.

The WVFR has a proud history of serving the community, engaging in charity work and various fundraising efforts to help improve the lives of people in the community. Most importantly he provided the residents of West Vancouver with the highest level of fire related emergency services to protect their life and property.

West Vancouver is a member of the FireSmart Community program which is designed to encourage local, self-organized groups of neighbours to implement solutions for wildfire safety by engaging and supporting homeowners, community leaders and others in shared efforts to protect people and property from wildfire.

In the Legislature

Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth

As the Official Opposition Critic for the Ministry of Children and Families and Child Care, I am a member of the Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth. I must say this is one of the most emotional parts of my role as MLA. We meet with the Representative for Children and Families to review reports and recommendations on issues related to youth in our Province. Most recently, we heard the story of Skye, a young Indigenous girl who moved foster homes multiple times between the ages of 12 and 17 when she ended her life with an overdose. The report stressed the importance of community connection and highlights the systematic issues when government deals with Indigenous families and children in care.

<https://rcybc.ca/reports-and-publications/skye/>

Special Committee on the Reform of the Police Act

I am also pleased to be participating as a member of the Special Committee on the Reform of the Police Act. The Committee is made up of MLAs across all parties. We have been actively engaged in hearing from groups and individuals with lived experience in and with policing. It has been enlightening to participate on this exceptionally important project. I would encourage you to look at the work of this Committee at

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/committees/41stParliament-5thSession-rpa>



UPCOMING EVENTS

Cypress Mountain Coaster

Opening July 12th - for information and tickets view [here](#)

Capilano Suspension Bridge

welcomes back Raptors Ridge Birds of Prey educational facility and Gandoll the Great Gray Owl - now open from 11:00am to 6:00pm - for more info click [here](#)

Artisan Farmers Markets

Located at the foot of 13th Street in Ambleside - for more information please visit their [website](#).

Kay Meek Center is welcoming in person audiences click [here](#) for upcoming events.

THINGS TO KNOW

We are now in a phase 3 of the government's vaccine rollout plan and a 78% of British Columbians have received their first does and 20% have received their second dose. With a ramp up of vaccine supply we are looking at a more people getting their second dose. Please ensure you are registered. More information on how to register is [here](#)



How to get vaccinated for COVID-19

BC RESTART PLAN

This is an exciting time for the Province, when we will finally start seeing the transition to a full reopening.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0041-001155>

STEPS	Criteria	PHO Guidance	Personal Gatherings	Organized Gatherings	Travel	Sports & Activities	Businesses	Offices & Workplaces
1 MAY 25	C: stable H: stable DI: 60%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings - up to 10 people Indoor visitors - up to 5 people or 1 household	Indoor seated organized gatherings - up to 10 people Outdoor seated organized gatherings - up to 50 people	Recreational travel within your zone Non-essential travel between zones restricted	Low-intensity indoor fitness classes Outdoor local team games and practices for all ages - no spectators	Indoor & outdoor dining - up to 6 people Liquor service - 10PM Existing WorkSafeBC Safety Plans remain in place	Start gradual return to workplaces and offices Existing Safety Plans remain in place
2 JUNE 15	C: declining H: declining DI: 65%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings - up to 50 people Indoor visitors - up to 5 people or 1 household Playdates	Indoor seated organized gatherings - up to 50 people Sector consultations on next steps on indoor and outdoor gatherings	BC recreational travel BC Transit and BC Ferries - increased services as needed	High-intensity indoor fitness classes - reduced capacity Indoor team games for all ages - no spectators Spectators for outdoor sports - up to 50 people	Liquor service - midnight Banquet halls reopen - limited capacity, Safety Plans Sector consultations on next steps on easing of restrictions	Continue return to work Small in-person meetings
3 JULY 1 (Earliest date)	C: low H: declining DI: 70%	Masks - recommended Careful social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Return to usual on indoor and outdoor personal gatherings Sleepovers	Increased capacity, indoor and outdoor gatherings - Safety Plan Fairs and festivals with Safety Plan	Canada recreational travel	All indoor fitness classes - increased capacity Limited spectators for indoor sports	Dining - no group limit Casinos and nightclubs - limited capacity Operate based on new Safety Plans	Seminars and bigger meetings Operate based on new Safety Plans
4 SEPT 7 (Earliest date)	C: low H: low DI: 70%+	Masks - personal choice Normal social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Normal social contact	Increased capacity on large organized gatherings (i.e. concerts)	Canada recreational travel	Increased indoor and outdoor spectators Return of normal sport competitions - Safety Plans	Continue to operate based on new Safety Plans	Fully re-opened offices and workplaces

Get more information on the restart plan [here](#).