

# MLA Bowinn Ma, MLA North Vancouver - Lonsdale UPDATE

SPRING 2019



## **Thank you, North Vancouver!**

Since becoming your MLA almost two years ago, our team has scheduled me into roughly 2400 meetings and events, answered nearly 3000 calls, fielded almost

45,000 e-mails, and connected with thousands of people through walk-ins, town halls, open houses, Cafe MLAs and public event engagements.

## *You're invited!*

Join us at our 2nd annual  
**Grand Open House**

Saturday, June 15, 2019

1-3pm

at our Community Office!

## **Integrated North Shore Transportation Planning Project (INSTPP)**



*Children are welcome to join their parents in our office!*

### **LOCATION**

5-221 W Esplanade  
North Vancouver BC V7M 3J3

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday–Thursday 10AM–5PM  
(Friday open for appointments only.)

### **CONTACT**

Phone: 604-981-0033

Fax: 604-981-0044

Web: [www.BowinnMaMLA.ca](http://www.BowinnMaMLA.ca)

E-mail: [Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Bowinn.Ma.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

MLA Ma is on social media!  
Find her on



North Shore transportation has been one of my top priorities since I was elected as your MLA. My previous experience as a professional engineer and background in transportation serve me well as I work on solutions to get the North Shore moving again.

It was an honour to lead the **Integrated North Shore Transportation and Planning Project (INSTPP)** in 2018, which brought federal, provincial, municipal, and First Nations governments and transportation agencies together to work collectively on improving transportation on the North Shore.

INSTPP is the first time key public transportation agencies have come together to establish a comprehensive understanding of the North Shore's transportation challenges and produce a unified, actionable approach for moving forward as a region. The final report summarizes a large body of work conducted with a level of inter-agency collaboration that is unprecedented.

There is no silver bullet when it comes to resolving our transportation challenges. Decisions must be evidence-based and informed by the analysis of real traffic data and the application of best practices.

Many pragmatic solutions are already underway as a result of the work of INSTPP. **I'm also pleased to share that we are proceeding with a feasibility study for a fixed-link rapid transit solution to the North Shore.**

This exciting announcement is just one of many that we've been able to share with you so far. I look forward to bringing you much more good news as I continue to work hard for you as your MLA.

In your service,

Bowinn Ma, MLA  
North Vancouver-Lonsdale

*Learn how INSTPP's action plan will get the North Shore moving again by reading the final report at [www.instpp.ca](http://www.instpp.ca)*

## Housing Security and Affordability in B.C.

- ▶ 17,000 new affordable homes already built or underway.
- ▶ Taxing real estate speculators and vacant homes.
- ▶ Cracking down on tax evasion and condo flipping.
- ▶ Investigating criminal money laundering and its impacts on the housing market.
- ▶ B.C.'s Rental Assistance Program rates increased by 17%.
- ▶ Shelter Aid for Elderly Residents (SAFER) rates increased by 42%.
- ▶ Modernizing the Residential Tenancy Act (RTA).
- ▶ New province-wide rent banks to provide low or no-interest, short-term loans to people at risk of losing housing or basic utilities.



The North Shore has received provincial funding for 240 new child care spaces so far.

## Helping Families With Children

### NEW BC Child Opportunity Benefit:

Non-taxable monthly support payments for families with children under 18 years old or up to \$1600 for one; \$2600 for two; \$3400 for three; etc.

### Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative:

Saving families up to \$4,200/year per child.

### Affordable Child Care Benefit:

Saving families up to \$15,000/year per child.

### Increasing Access to Child Care:

22,000 new licensed child care spaces, training more Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), and increasing wages for ECEs at licensed daycares.

Learn more about **Childcare BC** at [childcare.gov.bc.ca](http://childcare.gov.bc.ca)



B.C. is moving forward on a new state-of-the-art acute care facility at Lions Gate Hospital with 108 single-bed rooms and eight new operating rooms.

## Improving Healthcare

- ▶ Investing in new hospitals and Urgent Family Care Centres.
- ▶ Insulin pumps for those with Type 1 Diabetes now covered for all ages.
- ▶ \$1.048 billion in total funding to improve services for seniors home and community care, residential care, and assisted living.
- ▶ Improving access to mental health care.
- ▶ Eliminating or reducing Pharmacare deductibles for 240,000 families.
- ▶ Performing 44,000 more MRIs than last year to improve access to care.



The North Shore Neighborhood House has been selected to host a new provincial pilot project that delivers \$200/month child care.

## Supporting Those Who Need It Most

- ▶ Saving households up to \$1800/year by eliminating MSP Premiums as of January 1, 2020.
- ▶ Effective February 19, 2019, eliminating new interest on B.C. student loans.
- ▶ Reducing Fair Pharmacare deductibles and family maximums for low income households. Deductibles have been entirely eliminated for those with less than \$30k net income.
- ▶ Income assistance and disability payments increased by an additional \$50/month, for a total increase of \$150/month since the decade long freeze on rates was lifted in 2017.
- ▶ Increasing support payments to foster parents, adoptive caregivers, and Community Living BC (CLBC) home-share providers for the first time in over 10 years and providing these supports to extended family members caring for children.
- ▶ TogetherBC, B.C.'s first-ever poverty reduction strategy, aims to reduce overall poverty rates by 25% and child poverty rates by 50% within 5 years.



Mountainside Secondary will get seismic upgrades; Handsworth Secondary and Argyle Secondary will get seismically-sound replacement schools; School District of North Vancouver gets a boost in maintenance funding.



MLA Ma has been engaging with North Shore youth about the issues that matter to them.

*These are just a few highlights! For more information about the changes your government is making, please visit [bcbudget.gov.bc.ca](http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca) or contact our Community Office.*



North Vancouver will be getting two new provincially-funded affordable housing projects: a 106-unit seniors' housing complex and a 90-unit family-oriented project.



The North Shore Youth Safe House, which takes in upwards of 150 youth per year, has stable funding from the province for the first time in its 10-year history.



Congratulations to Jordanne Burgess, Jewel Jacobs and Megan Ingborg, on being the first three recipients of MLA Bowinn Ma's personally-sponsored community scholarships.



Students at Norgate Elementary and Larson Elementary will enjoy new playgrounds thanks to provincial funding.

## Marine-Main B-Line



Bus service on the North Shore is increasing by 16% and the new Marine-Main B-Line will be a reliable and frequent rapid-bus connection between Phibbs Exchange and West Vancouver. It will run every 8 minutes during peak periods and 10-15 minutes outside peak periods.

## Lower Lynn Improvement Project



This project will improve east-west connections for local drivers near the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge by separating local and highway traffic. This project is anticipated to reduce travel time during rush hours and reduce the risks of crashes along that stretch of highway by one-third. The Lower Lynn Project is expected to be fully complete in 2021.

## Faster Crash Clearing



INSTPP identified the need to expedite incident-clearing on the Iron Workers Memorial and Lions Gate bridges, where a minor crash can result in frustrating delays and traffic jams. Modernized regulations on mandatory police reporting, new real-time digital message displays, and improved highway maintenance contracts that ensure robust 24-7 standby tow-truck services at the bridges will work to improve how quickly North Shore traffic recovers after minor collisions.

## Third SeaBus: The Burrard Chinook



Named the *Burrard Chinook*, this new SeaBus will be put into service in 2019 and will increase peak period sailing frequency to once every 10 minutes.

## Terminal and Transit Exchange Upgrades



Improvements for the Waterfront SeaBus Terminal includes new escalators, elevators, stairs, and seismic upgrades. The Lonsdale Quay Transit Exchange and Phibbs Transit Exchange will also be receiving upgrades to support service improvements while improving the comfort and safety of passengers.



## Tackling Climate Change with cleanBC

Rising to meet the global challenge of climate change is an opportunity for British Columbia to mobilize our skilled workers, natural resources, and booming technology sector to reduce climate pollution and create good jobs. B.C.'s new CleanBC plan is a pathway to a more prosperous, balanced, and sustainable future.

Learn more about cleanBC at [cleanbc.gov.bc.ca](http://cleanbc.gov.bc.ca)

## Strong Economy



B.C. has produced a balanced budget while eliminating its operating debt for the first time in 40 years. B.C. continues to lead the country in economic growth and is the only province rated triple-A with all three international credit rating agencies.



# Clip & Keep Reference Numbers

Courtesy of Bowinn Ma, MLA North Vancouver-Lonsdale

5-221 W. ESPLANADE, NORTH VANCOUVER, BC / 604-981-0033



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Bowinn Ma, MLA**  
**North Vancouver-Lonsdale**  
604-981-0033

**Jonathan Wilkinson, MP**  
**North Vancouver**  
604-775-6333

**City of North Vancouver**  
604-985-7761

**District of North Vancouver**  
604-990-2311

**District of West Vancouver**  
604-925-7000

**School District #44** 604-903-3444

**Squamish Nation** 604-980-4553

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**BC211** Free Information & Referral  
2-1-1 / www.bc211.ca

**Enquiry BC** Information about  
provincial programs and services  
604-660-2421

**BC Drug & Alcohol Information  
Referral Service** 1-800-663-1441

**BC Gambling Info Line**  
1-888-795-6111

**BC Housing** 604-433-2218

**BC Notaries** 604-681-4516

**BC Ombudsperson** 1-800-567-3247

**Employment Standards Branch**  
1-800-663-3316

**Family Services North Shore**  
604-988-5281

**Harvest Project** 604-983-9488

**Hollyburn Family Services**  
604-987-8211

**LandlordBC** 1-888-330-6707

**Legal Services Society** 604-408-2172

**Lookout Shelter North Shore**  
604-982-9126

**Medical Services Plan & Pharmacare**  
604 683-7151

**Mental Health Support**  
310-6789 (no area code required)

**Representative for Children  
and Youth** 1-800-476-3933

**Residential Tenancy Office**  
604-660-1020

**North Shore Community  
Resources** 604-985-7138

**North Shore Crisis Services Society**  
604-987-0366

**North Shore Disability Resource  
Centre** 604-985-5371

**North Shore Legal Information  
and Assistance**  
604-985-7138 Ext.310

**North Shore Multicultural Society**  
604-988-2931

**North Shore Neighbourhood House**  
604-987-8138

**North Shore Women's Centre**  
604-984-6009

**North Vancouver City Library**  
604-998-3450

**Older Adult Mental Health Team  
For Families and Caregivers**  
604-982-5600

**Seniors One Stop Help Line**  
604-983-3303

**Silver Harbour Seniors  
Activity Centre**  
604-980-2474

**The Foundry – North Shore  
Youth Support** 604-984-5060

**Tenants Rights Action Coalition  
(TRAC)** 604-255-0546

**Vancouver Coastal Health**  
604-736-2033

**VCH Patient Care Quality Office**  
1 (877) 993-9199

**VictimLinkBC** 1-800-563-0808

**WorkBC North Shore (YMCA)**  
604-988-3766

**WorkSafeBC** 1-888-967-5377

**Youth Against Violence Line**  
1-800-680-4264

## How We Help

When you contact our Community Office, my staff and I will do everything we can to help. If we cannot assist you directly, we will do our best to redirect you to the appropriate place. Your confidentiality is respected at all times.

Since we're often out in the community or helping community members, please make an appointment to make sure we have the time we need to assist you. To book an appointment, call 604-981-0033.

## Our Services

- ▶ **Space for community workshops and meetings**  
– We can host your free workshop or meeting after hours at 5-221 W Esplanade.\*
- ▶ **Recognition** – Has someone in our community made a unique contribution or achieved something great? We will send a congratulatory message and certificate or card.
- ▶ **Advocacy** – We will work hard to help you solve any problems with provincial government departments, services or ministries.
- ▶ **Information** – Our office can find the right government contact or program. We can help you understand out how program changes will affect you, your family and your community.
- ▶ **Referral** – We know the services available in our community. We also know what grants are available to help fund community building services and projects. Just ask!
- ▶ **Get connected** – Our office offers free fax, phone and internet for government and community-related matters.

\* We are restricted by the type of events we can host; please ask us for details.

## Other ways MLA Ma serves the people of North Vancouver-Lonsdale in the BC Legislature...

- ▶ as Chair of the *Select Standing Committee on Crown Corporations*
- ▶ as a member of the *Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts*
- ▶ on the *Treasury Board Committee* and the *Cabinet Housing Working Group*
- ▶ as *Parliamentary Secretary for Translink*