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Budget 2022: Stronger Together

Your BC Government has released Budget 2022: a budget that makes important investments in people and communities throughout our beautiful province.

Budget 2022 highlights include:

- o \$2.1 billion to support the recovery of communities as we build back better from recent disasters, and to strengthen our defenses to make sure people and communities across B.C. are protected from future climate-related disasters
- o Average child care fees paid by families with kids under 5 will be reduced by 50% — this works out to roughly \$20/day on average
- o 20 new complex care sites around the province to support people with the most complex needs
- o \$3 billion over 3 years to build and replace schools so all students continue to have access to safe, high-quality schools in which to learn
- o a record \$27.4 billion investment in infrastructure, including building schools, hospitals, housing, transit, highways and bridges
- o \$22 million in core funding for 50 sexual assault service centres across the province

We are going to continue to make life better for people by investing in our province's economic, environmental, and social strengths. You can learn more here and view the full budget at bcbudget.gov.bc.ca.

COVID-19 Response

B.C. has been able to further lift health restrictions due to lower COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations. The indoor mask order, restrictions on faith gatherings and overnight camps for children and youth have been lifted and restrictions on long-term care visitation will be eased as of March 18. The use of the BC Vaccine Card to access non-essential events, services and businesses will no longer be required as of April 8, 2022.

Easing restrictions is based on ongoing and careful review of data by the provincial health officer and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC). The Province will continue to monitor and provide updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in B.C. moving forward.

We are in this position because British Columbians have stepped up and done their part, as we've done throughout this pandemic. As we move through this transition period, please continue to be respectful of people around you who may have different comfort levels.

BC Stands with Ukraine

British Columbians of all stripes stand with the people of Ukraine against Russia's horrific and illegal invasion. We are doing what we can as a province to help hold the government of Russia to account and to support the Ukrainian people, including supporting federal sanctions, contributing to relief efforts, halting the sale of Russian liquor products, and more. We've heard from many North Vancouverites that they're ready to open their hearts and their homes to people fleeing violence in Ukraine, and our government is ready to assist when the federal government brings forward accelerated immigration and refugee plans.