

FW: National Day - China

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 2:01:17 PM PDT

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: September 28, 2021 3:22 PM
To: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: National Day - China

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,
We really appreciate the kind letter from Hon. Premier on the occasion of the Chinese National Day.
We would like to post the letter on the Consulate's official website.
Please let us know if your office has other suggestions.
Thank you.

Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca> 于2021年9月24日周五 下午2:11写道 :

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from the Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia conveying greetings on the occasion of your upcoming National Day.

Sincerely,

Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Address | PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt | Victoria, BC V8W 9V1
Tel: 250.387.1616 | Fax: 250.356.2814

FW: National Day - China

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 2:01:35 PM PDT
Attachments: CHN_NDL_2021-09-24.pdf

From: Protocol IGRS:EX
Sent: September 24, 2021 2:11 PM
To: 'china.vancouver@gmail.com' <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Subject: National Day - China

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from the Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia conveying greetings on the occasion of your upcoming National Day.

Sincerely,

Office of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Address | PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt | Victoria, BC V8W 9V1
Tel: 250.387.1616 | Fax: 250.356.2814



September 24, 2021

Madam Xiaoling Tong
Consul General of China
3380 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC V6H 3K3

Dear Consul General:

As Premier of British Columbia, I am pleased to extend my warmest wishes to you and everyone celebrating your National Day on October 1, 2021.

Even in these unprecedented times, National Days are an opportunity for communities in B.C. and around the world to share in patriotism and passion for their country's vibrant history and culture. The people of China bring the richness of their arts, traditions, and values to countries across the globe, and British Columbians are honoured to join with all of you in recognizing your proud heritage on this important occasion.

I want to thank you and your staff for your continued dedication and service representing China here in our beautiful province. Consulates are vital links in strengthening our cultural and economic ties, advancing mutual priorities and helping jurisdictions come together in difficult times such as these. The Government of British Columbia looks forward to building on our international partnership with you for many more prosperous years of friendship.

I wish you a very happy National Day celebration with your friends, colleagues and citizens reflecting on China's historic achievements and exciting future.

Sincerely,

John Horgan
Premier

**Office of the
Premier**

Web Site:
www.gov.bc.ca

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

FW: Purchase of Duty and Tax Free Alcohol

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 2:01:46 PM PDT

From: Protocol IGRS:EX
Sent: September 10, 2021 4:20 PM
Subject: Purchase of Duty and Tax Free Alcohol

Good afternoon,

We are pleased to include details below, as provided by the B.C. Liquor Distribution Branch, to purchase duty and tax free alcohol through the Wholesale Customer Centre (WCC) located in Vancouver for eligible foreign missions, diplomatic agents and career consular officers for official and/or personal use as outlined in the Canadian Office of Protocol [Circular Note No. XDC-1367](#).

Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
[PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt](#)
[Victoria BC V8V 1S2](#)

Purchase of Liquor for Consular Corps functions:

All alcohol that is to be purchased duty and tax free is done through the Wholesale Customer Centre (WCC) located in Vancouver. The process involves:

1. Consulate identifies the product they wish to order for diplomatic exemption – Name, Size, SKU & Quantity of the product (e.g. Cedar Creek – Merlot Cabernet 09/10, 750 ml, 5 bottles). Listing, identification and availability of products is available on the BC Liquor Stores web site - <http://www.bcliquorstores.com/>

**Note - If the order includes Import-Beer products, the Consulate is required to obtain authorization from Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) before submitting the order to the LDB's Wholesale Imports department. Consulates can email CBSA at PAC809WarehouseOps@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca for approval. Please note the following CBSA requirements:*

- Email attachments must be in PDF format
- Subject Line to read: CONSULATE BEER ORDER
- Please allow 24 hour processing time for approval

Once CBSA approves your order, they will transmit the approval to both the Consulate and the LDB for further processing.

2. Consulate prepares list of all products they wish to order and email the Wholesale Imports department, Special Clearance section (ldbcustoms@bclldb.com) of the BC Liquor Distribution Branch along with a copy of their Foreign Affairs Canada ID Card (front and back) to verify eligibility. Consulate should include their email address and contact telephone number on their order.
3. Customs, Special Clearance verifies order and eligibility for diplomatic exemption and sends order to WCC Vancouver to enter the order under the appropriate Consulate Account, this order is then assembled for pick up by Wholesale Distribution.
4. Once the order is ready for pick up the Consulate will receive an Invoice by email, the amount on the Invoice will be automatically charged to the Credit Card or Pre-Authorized Purchase Account on file with WCC Vancouver,

unless an alternate payment plan that has been approved by LDB Finance is in place. The Consulate will then pick up the product from the Distribution Centre located in Delta at 7003 72nd Street, Delta BC V4G 1J2 at the Customer Pick-up Area. The Customer Pick-up Area is open Monday through Friday, 8:00am – 1:00pm. Additional pick-up information and a map to the area can be located in the WCC Order Handbook on page 38 and 39, located on the Wholesale Website in the WCC Resources section at <https://wholesale.bcldb.com/index.php/resources/wholesale-customer-centre> .

FW: Supplemental Update of Procedures for Issuance of Foreign Representative License Plates

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 2:02:48 PM PDT

From: Protocol IGRS:EX
Sent: July 22, 2021 10:10 AM
Subject: Supplemental Update of Procedures for Issuance of Foreign Representative License Plates

Good Morning,

Further to the recent distribution of Information Note OP21MVA0016 regarding the issuance of foreign representative licence plates in British Columbia, the Office of Protocol of British Columbia wishes to advise the temporary update issued below on October 1, 2020 requiring **appointments for visits to the ICBC Head Office** for issuance of foreign representative plates is **continued until further notice**.

October 1, 2020 - Temporary Update of Procedures for Issuance of Foreign Representative License Plates

The Office of Protocol of British Columbia is pleased to advise that In an effort to minimize person-to-person transactions and reduce COVID-19 risks to ICBC staff and customers, actions were taken in early March beginning with the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) Head Office in North Vancouver being closed to the public. This included the Autoplan Sales (AP Sales) office where foreign representative plate transactions take place.

Subsequently, ICBC implemented measures for private Autoplan brokers to conduct transactions by phone and email. The brokers also introduced safety measures in their offices to reduce COVID-19 risks with those transactions that had to be conducted person-to-person, including initial vehicle registrations. The ICBC Head Office, including AP Sales, also implemented contingency measures for foreign representatives. These measures for Autoplan brokers and AP Sales remain in place today.

The new procedures for obtaining Foreign Representative licence and plates are as follows:

- A foreign representative obtains a regular vehicle registration, licence and insurance at an Autoplan broker office that is equipped for person-to-person transactions.
- Next the foreign representative calls AP Sales (Tel: 604.661.6956) to arrange the next step (see below).
- The transaction is discussed and supporting documents are exchanged over email and phone. Details are arranged over the phone for the foreign representative to meet an AP Sales representative **outside** the ICBC Head Office (151 West Esplanade, North Vancouver) to exchange their regular licence and plates with the Foreign Representative licence and plates. The plate substitution is free. Also, the regular licence fee charged at the Autoplan broker office is refunded and replaced with the \$12 licence fee (as applicable to Foreign Representatives) when the Foreign Representative plates are exchanged for the regular plates.

These are intended to be temporary revised procedures and they may continue to evolve. (AP Sales is the only broker in BC authorized to issue foreign representative plates. Although currently closed to walk in customers, AP Sales will provide this courtesy plate substitution service for foreign representatives.) ICBC is currently looking at improving its COVID-19 contingency measures, however for the time being foreign representatives are advised to contact the AP Sales office (Tel: 604.661.6956) for any updates to these instructions.

As always, the BC Office of Protocol is able to assist with any issues regarding these new procedures.

Sincerely,

B.C. Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8V 1S2

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

B.C. Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Tel: 250.387.1616, email: protocol@gov.bc.ca
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8V 1S2

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: June 24, 2021 10:48 AM

Subject: Information Note OP21MVA0016 - Update to Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia

Good Morning,

Please find the attached Information Note OP21MVA0016 updating details for the Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia relevant to the Consular Corps of B.C. and other foreign representatives based in B.C.

Thank you.

Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

Phone: 250.387.1616 Fax: 250.356.2814
email: Protocol@gov.bc.ca
Internet: www.protocol@gov.bc.ca

FW: Information Note OP21MVA0016 - Update to Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia

From: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 2:03:21 PM PDT
Attachments: FINAL_OP21MVA0016_InfoNote.pdf,
FINAL_OP21MVA0016_InfoNote_FR.pdf

From: Protocol IGRS:EX

Sent: June 24, 2021 10:48 AM

Subject: Information Note OP21MVA0016 - Update to Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia

Good Morning,

Please find the attached Information Note OP21MVA0016 updating details for the Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia relevant to the Consular Corps of B.C. and other foreign representatives based in B.C.

Thank you.

Office of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria BC V8W 9V1

Phone: 250.387.1616 Fax: 250.356.2814

email: Protocol@gov.bc.ca

Internet: www.protocol@gov.bc.ca



June 24, 2021

To: Heads of International Organizations,
Heads of Consular Posts, and
Heads of Other Offices established in British Columbia

Re: Issuance of Foreign Representative Licence Plates in British Columbia

The Office of Protocol of British Columbia is pleased to enclose Information Note OP21MVA0016. This note supersedes Office of Protocol of British Columbia Information Note OP16MVA0010 of December 14, 2016.

This updated note reflects:

- Clarification regarding benefits and courtesies extended to holders of red and white plates.
- The addition of the "SR" prefix on Identity Cards for eligibility by foreign representatives from Political Subdivisions of Foreign States and Other Offices.
- Updated criteria for honorary consular officers to clarify that only vehicles registered in their personal name will be eligible for a special plate. A vehicle registered or leased in the name of joint owners, an incorporated company, etc., is not eligible.

Our office will rely on Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Consular Posts and Other Offices to ensure that applicable staff are updated accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Lobmeier
Chief of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Office of Protocol

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1
Telephone: (250) 387-1616
Facsimile: (250) 356-2814

Location:
553 Superior St., 2nd Floor
Victoria BC V8V 1S2

Web site:
www.gov.bc.ca/officeofprotocol



**OFFICE OF PROTOCOL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER**

June 24, 2021

INFORMATION NOTE OP21MVA0016

**FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE VEHICLE LICENCE PLATES
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM

The program provides distinctive licence plates, with white lettering on a red background, to foreign representatives in British Columbia.

The special licence plates are issued for a vehicle owned or leased by an accredited foreign International Organization, Consular Post, Other Office, foreign representative or their accredited dependant.

MANDATORY PROGRAM

Under British Columbia policy, all accredited foreign missions, consular posts, international organizations and other offices, and their representatives based in British Columbia, and all foreign representatives and their dependents who reside in British Columbia, must obtain red and white motor vehicle licence plates for those vehicles they own or lease that are included in the Program (see below for included vehicles) within 30 days of taking-up residence in the province. This program is optional for Honorary Consular Officers.

Should the Head of any foreign mission, consular post, international organization, or other office accredited to Canada have a concern about the safety and security of their foreign entity or members of their operation, the Head can request of the Department of Global Affairs Canada that a properly-conducted security assessment be made by the Government of Canada. If it is deemed that a risk does exist, the Head can subsequently request approval of the British Columbia (B.C.) Office of Protocol, to have normal provincial licence plates issued to that foreign entity and its accredited representatives and their dependents for the period of time that the risk continues to exist, up to a maximum of one year at which time the risk will be reassessed. The B.C. Office of Protocol will, if necessary, make an interim determination while the federal review is underway. Full licence fees will apply to all requests for normal provincial licence plates.

Benefits and courtesies (e.g. complimentary parking) extended to holders of red and white plates are at the discretion of participating jurisdictions (regional, municipal, etc.). The same benefits and courtesies are not expected to be accorded to holders of normal provincial licence plates. Vehicles with red and white plates are expected to comply with all local traffic laws and regulations and may be ticketed if they are in violation of those regulations – i.e. use of hand-held electronic devices while driving, parking in a rush hour zone during rush hour, parking in a loading zone or no parking zone, etc. The Office of Protocol, Government of British Columbia does not intervene in traffic or parking violations issued by local jurisdictions or law enforcement agencies.

PLATE NUMBERS AND ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS / POSTS / OFFICES / PERSONS

The program is for vehicles registered to:

<u>Plate Prefix</u>	<u>Registered Owner/Lessee</u>
• DL 000A »	International Organizations; Representatives to International Organizations; Senior Officers of International Organizations; or, Dependants of Representatives and Senior Officers. <i>Eligibility:</i> Holders of an “I” Identity Card with the acronym of the International Organization.
• CC000A »	States represented by Career Consular Officers; Consular Posts headed by Career Consular Officers; Career Consular Officers; or, Dependants of Career Consular Officers. <i>Eligibility:</i> Holders of a “C” Identity Card.
• HC 000A »	Honorary Consular Officers. <u>[one set of plates for one vehicle registered to Officer]</u> <i>Eligibility:</i> Short Form Exequatur Document (SFED) photo identity card.
• CS 000A »	Officers of International Organizations; Employees (administrative and technical) and Service Staff of International Organizations or Consular Posts; or, Dependants of Officers, Employees and Service Staff. <i>Eligibility:</i> Holders of a “J” Identity Card.
• SR 000A »	Offices of Political Subdivisions of Foreign States and <i>Other Offices</i> ; Officials of these Offices; or, Dependants of these Officials. <i>Eligibility:</i> Holders of an “I”, “J” or “SR” Identity Card with the acronym of the Office.

The categories outlined above are based on the federal Department of Global Affairs Canada’s Identity Card and Acceptance program for foreign representatives in Canada.

Other than the honorary consular officers, Canadian Citizens and permanent residents of Canada are not eligible for special licence plates under this program.

ELIGIBLE VEHICLES

Three categories of vehicles owned or leased by accredited foreign entities, accredited foreign representatives or accredited dependants of foreign representatives will require the special red and white licence plates:

- Passenger Vehicles (Type 1)

A Passenger Vehicle is a motor vehicle with a body designed for the transportation of not more than 10 persons, including the driver. This type of vehicle has windows adjacent to the seating area and normally has a rear seat accessible from a side door. It includes station wagons, low-speed vehicles and privately-used limousine body style vehicles. It does not include snow vehicles, buses, or passenger-type vehicles used as a public conveyance.

- Commercial Vehicles (Type 2)

A Commercial Vehicle is a motor vehicle having a truck or delivery body permanently attached to it. This type includes light vans and pick-up trucks (usually up to 5500 kg).

- Motor Homes (Type 5)

A Motor Home is a motor vehicle designed or used primarily for accommodation during travel or recreation.

Other types of vehicles, such as motorcycles and trailers, will have to be licensed in the normal manner, with payment of the normal fees, applicable to Canadian Citizens resident in British Columbia.

WHERE TO OBTAIN A FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE LICENCE PLATES / BASIC VEHICLE INSURANCE

All initial transactions for vehicles that qualify for the foreign representative licence plates will be conducted at the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) Autoplan Sales Office in North Vancouver. The Autoplan Sales Unit, rather than a private-sector Autoplan broker, must be attended in person for confirmation of eligibility and the issuance of the new licence plates. The office is located at:

Room 125, 151 West Esplanade
North Vancouver, British Columbia V7M 3H9
Telephone: (604) 661-6956

In British Columbia, ICBC issues vehicle licence plates and provides mandatory basic automobile insurance. Additional vehicle insurance coverage can be purchased from ICBC or from private insurance companies.

WHERE TO RENEW FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE LICENCE PLATES / BASIC VEHICLE INSURANCE

After the initial transaction, in which a foreign representative receives their new foreign representative licence plates, any subsequent transactions, such as renewals (obtaining a new validation sticker for an existing licence plate) and mid-term changes may be processed by any ICBC Autoplan broker.

Before the expiry of the validation sticker and basic vehicle insurance (normally on an annual basis from the date of the first registration/licensing of the vehicle), ICBC may, as a courtesy and in keeping with current practice, send a renewal reminder to the registered owner or lessee of a vehicle.

All outstanding traffic and parking fines must be paid before vehicle validation stickers and insurance will be renewed.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND LICENCING REQUIREMENTS

In all cases, the documentation showing proof of ownership or lease of a new or used vehicle purchased or leased in British Columbia must be provided to ICBC. Foreign representatives who have just moved to the Province from another jurisdiction should check the ICBC website at www.ICBC.com to determine the documentation needed to register, licence and insure their vehicle in British Columbia. In addition to these regular documents, the following identification will be required before the special foreign representative licence plates can be issued:

- Department of Global Affairs Canada Identification Card for verification of eligibility and confirmation of applicable licence plate category. In addition, for secondary identification, the foreign representative or their dependent will have to show their Passport containing their Department of Global Affairs Canada Acceptance.

An International Organization may register a vehicle in the name of that Organization and obtain Foreign Representative licence plates by providing a letter, on the letterhead of the International Organization, signed by the Head of the Organization, confirming that the International Organization is the owner or lessee of that vehicle. In addition, the person who licences the vehicle will need to produce their valid Identity Card, which shows the acronym for their International Organization, and their Passport containing a valid Acceptance issued to them by the Department of Global Affairs Canada.

A Foreign State or a Consular Post headed by a Career Consular Officer may register a vehicle in the name of that State or Post and obtain Foreign Representative licence plates by providing a letter, on the letterhead of the Consular Post, signed by the Head of the Post, confirming that the Foreign State or Consular Post is the owner or lessee of that vehicle. In addition, the person who licences the vehicle will need to produce their valid Identity Card and their Passport containing a valid Acceptance issued to them by the Department of Global Affairs Canada.

NOTE: An Honorary Consular Officer cannot obtain foreign representative licence plates for a vehicle registered in the name of a Foreign State or Consular Post.

Offices of Political Subdivisions of Foreign States and Other Offices may register a vehicle in the name of that Office and obtain Foreign Representative licence plates by providing a letter, on the letterhead of the Office, signed by the Head of the Office, confirming that the Office is the owner or lessee of that vehicle. In addition, the person who licences the vehicle will need to produce their valid Identity Card, which shows the acronym for their Office, and their Passport containing a valid Acceptance issued to them by the Department of Global Affairs Canada.

A Foreign Representative or a Dependant of a foreign representative, who is a national of another country, may register a vehicle in their name by producing their valid Identity Card issued by the Canadian Department of Global Affairs Canada and their Passport containing a valid Acceptance issued to them by the Department of Global Affairs Canada. The numbers on the Identity Card and Acceptance must match.

An Honorary Consular Officer wishing to obtain a special 'HC' plate in British Columbia may do so by producing their valid Short Form Exequatur Document (SFED) photo identity card, indicating the consular district as "Province of British Columbia", issued by the Canadian Department of Global Affairs Canada at the ICBC North Vancouver office, along with a valid Canadian Passport or a valid British Columbia Driver's Licence. Only **one** vehicle owned or leased by an honorary consular officer and registered in their personal name, will be eligible to have the special plates — any other vehicle will have to be licensed with a regular British Columbia plate. A vehicle registered or leased in the name of joint owners, an incorporated company, sole proprietorship, partnership company, cooperative or a not-for-profit organization such as society, is not eligible.

FEES

A reduced annual licence fee of \$12 will be charged for vehicle licences with the DL, CC, CS and SR prefixes. Licence plates with the HC prefix will have the full licence fee applied at the time of licensing or licence renewal.

BRINGING A FOREIGN VEHICLE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

New arrivals to British Columbia, if they bring a motor vehicle with them, must register their vehicle and obtain a Foreign Representative Licence Plate for that vehicle within 30 days.

Please consult the ICBC website, at www.ICBC.com, for details of registering vehicles brought from other provinces, the United States or from another country.

CONCLUSION OF POSTING/APPOINTMENT

As soon as possible after, but within 30 days of, the conclusion of a foreign representative's posting or appointment, the foreign representative licence plates (both plates must be returned) must be returned to the ICBC Autoplan Sales Office in North Vancouver. Appropriate cancellation fees and refunds for plate and insurance charges will be made.

CANCELLING OR EXCHANGE OF PLATES

Should an accredited foreign mission, consular post, international organization or other office, and their representatives wish to surrender or exchange their foreign representative licence plates for normal provincial licence plates for reasons other than those addressed in this Information Note, the Head must request approval from the B.C. Office of Protocol. Full licence fees will apply to all requests for normal provincial licence plates.

CONTACT

Enquiries related to the Foreign Representative Licence Plate Program should be directed to:

Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Office of the Premier

PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9V1
Telephone: (250) 387-1616
Facsimile: (250) 356-2814
E-mail: Protocol@gov.bc.ca

APPENDIX 1

SAMPLE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE LICENCE PLATES
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA





Le 24 juin 2021

DESTINATAIRES : Directeurs d'organismes internationaux
Directeurs des postes consulaires
Directeurs des autres bureaux établis en Colombie-Britannique

Objet : Délivrance de plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger en Colombie-Britannique

Au nom du Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique, je vous transmets la note d'information OP21MVA0016 qui remplace la note d'information OP16MVA0010 émise par le Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique le 14 décembre 2016.

Cette note actualisée donne les précisions suivantes :

- Explications des avantages et bénéfices accordés aux titulaires de plaques d'immatriculation rouges et blanches
- L'ajout du préfixe « SR » sur les cartes d'identité des représentants étrangers des subdivisions politiques d'États étrangers et autres bureaux admissibles
- Mise à jour des critères à remplir par les fonctionnaires consulaires honoraires visant à préciser que seuls les véhicules enregistrés à leur nom personnel pourront avoir une plaque spéciale. Un véhicule enregistré ou loué au nom de copropriétaires, d'une société constituée, etc. n'y a pas droit.

Notre bureau compte sur les chefs de missions diplomatiques, de postes consulaires ou d'autres bureaux pour veiller à ce que tout le personnel concerné soit informé comme il se doit.

Cordialement,

Lucy Lobmeier
Chef du protocole



**BUREAU DU PROTOCOLE
RELATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES
BUREAU DU PREMIER MINISTRE**

Le 24 juin 2021

NOTE D'INFORMATION OP21MVA0016

**PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION POUR VÉHICULES DE REPRÉSENTANTS ÉTRANGERS
EN COLOMBIE-BRITANNIQUE**

EN QUOI CONSISTE LE PROGRAMME

Le programme vise à fournir des plaques d'immatriculation distinctives, avec lettrage blanc sur fond rouge, aux représentants étrangers en Colombie-Britannique.

Ces plaques d'immatriculation spéciales sont délivrées pour les véhicules qui sont la propriété d'un organisme international, d'un poste consulaire ou d'un autre bureau accrédité, d'un représentant étranger ou d'une de leurs personnes à charge accréditées, ou qui sont loués par ces organismes ou par ces personnes.

PROGRAMME OBLIGATOIRE

Conformément à la politique de la Colombie-Britannique, toutes les missions étrangères, les postes consulaires, les organismes internationaux et autres bureaux accrédités et leurs représentants basés en Colombie-Britannique, de même que tous les représentants étrangers et leurs personnes à charge résidant en Colombie-Britannique doivent obtenir des plaques d'immatriculation rouges et blanches pour tous les véhicules dont ils sont propriétaires ou qu'ils louent et qui sont inclus dans le programme (voir la liste de ces véhicules ci-dessous), et ce, dans les 30 jours où ils deviennent résidents de la province. Ce programme est facultatif pour les fonctionnaires consulaires honoraires.

Si le chef d'une mission étrangère, d'un poste consulaire, d'un organisme international ou de tout autre bureau accrédité auprès du Canada est préoccupé de quelque façon que ce soit concernant la sûreté ou la sécurité de ses entités ou de ses membres, il peut demander à Affaires mondiales Canada qu'une évaluation de sécurité soit réalisée comme il se doit par le gouvernement du Canada. S'il est réputé qu'un risque existe effectivement, le chef pourra par la suite demander l'approbation du Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique afin que soient délivrées des plaques d'immatriculation provinciales ordinaires à cette entité étrangère et à ses représentants accrédités et à leurs personnes à charge pour la période au cours de laquelle le risque continuera d'exister, et ce, jusqu'à un maximum d'un an, après quoi le risque

fera à nouveau l'objet d'une évaluation. Le Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique pourra ensuite, au besoin, rendre une décision provisoire pendant que l'examen par le gouvernement fédéral sera réalisé. Les droits d'immatriculation complets s'appliqueront pour toutes les demandes visant l'obtention de plaques d'immatriculation provinciales ordinaires.

Les avantages et bénéfices (p. ex. le stationnement gratuit) accordés aux titulaires de plaques d'immatriculation rouges et blanches sont laissés à la discrétion des administrations participantes (régionales, municipales, etc.). On ne doit pas s'attendre à ce que ces avantages et bénéfices soient accordés aux titulaires de plaques d'immatriculation provinciales ordinaires. Les véhicules portant des plaques de couleur rouge et blanche doivent se conformer à toutes les lois et à tous les règlements locaux sur la circulation. Leurs conducteurs peuvent recevoir une contravention s'ils enfreignent ces règlements, par exemple s'ils utilisent des appareils électroniques portatifs pendant qu'ils conduisent, s'ils se garent aux heures de pointe dans une zone réservée à la circulation pendant les heures de pointe, s'ils se garent dans une zone de chargement ou une zone où il est interdit de stationner, etc. Le Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique n'intervient pas dans les cas où les autorités locales ou les organismes d'application de la loi donnent une contravention pour infraction à la circulation ou au stationnement.

NUMÉROS DE PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION ET ORGANISMES/ POSTES / BUREAUX / PERSONNES ADMISSIBLES

Le programme vise les véhicules enregistrés comme suit :

<u>Préfixe de la plaque</u>	<u>Locateur ou propriétaire enregistré</u>
• DL 000A »	Organismes internationaux; Représentants d'organismes internationaux; Hauts fonctionnaires d'organismes internationaux; Personnes à charge de représentants ou de hauts fonctionnaires. <i>Admissibilité</i> : titulaires d'une carte d'identité à préfixe « I » avec l'acronyme de l'organisme international.
• CC 000A »	États représentés par un fonctionnaire consulaire de carrière; Postes consulaires dirigés par un fonctionnaire consulaire de carrière; Fonctionnaires consulaires de carrière; Personnes à charge de fonctionnaires consulaires de carrière. <i>Admissibilité</i> : titulaires d'une carte d'identité à préfixe « C ».
• HC 000A »	Fonctionnaires consulaires honoraires. <u>[un ensemble de plaques d'immatriculation pour un véhicule enregistré auprès du fonctionnaire]</u> <i>Admissibilité</i> : titulaires d'exequatur abrégé sous forme de carte d'identité avec photo.
• CS 000A »	Hauts fonctionnaires d'organismes internationaux; Personnel (administratif et technique) et personnel de service d'organismes internationaux ou de postes consulaires; Personnes à charge de hauts fonctionnaires, d'employés et de personnel de service.

Admissibilité : titulaires d'une carte d'identité à préfixe « J ».

- SR 000A » Bureaux de sous-divisions politiques d'États étrangers ou *autres bureaux*;
Hauts fonctionnaires de ces bureaux
Personnes à charge de ces hauts fonctionnaires.
Admissibilité : titulaires d'une carte d'identité à préfixe « I », « J » ou
« SR » avec l'acronyme de leur bureau ou organisme.

Les catégories ci-dessus correspondent à la carte d'identité délivrée par Affaires mondiales Canada et reposent sur le programme de cartes d'identité et d'acceptation diplomatique pour les représentants étrangers au Canada.

Outre les fonctionnaires consulaires honoraires, les citoyens canadiens et les résidents permanents du Canada ne sont pas admissibles à recevoir des plaques d'immatriculation spéciales dans le cadre de ce programme.

VÉHICULES ADMISSIBLES

Trois catégories de véhicules dont sont propriétaires ou locataires des entités étrangères accréditées, des représentants étrangers accrédités ou les personnes à charge accréditées de représentants étrangers doivent porter des plaques d'immatriculation spéciales rouges et blanches :

- Véhicules de tourisme (type 1)

Un véhicule de tourisme est un véhicule motorisé dont la carrosserie est conçue pour le transport d'un maximum de dix personnes, conducteur compris. Ce type de véhicule est doté de fenêtres près des sièges et comporte normalement une banquette arrière accessible par une porte latérale. Les voitures familiales, les véhicules à basse vitesse et les véhicules à usage privé de type limousine sont des véhicules de tourisme. Cette catégorie exclut les véhicules pour la neige, les autocars et les véhicules de tourisme utilisés pour le transport public.

- Véhicules commerciaux (type 2)

Un véhicule commercial est un véhicule motorisé rattaché en permanence à une remorque ou à un autre dispositif ouvert ou fermé pour la livraison. Les fourgonnettes et les camions légers (jusqu'à 5 500 kg) entrent dans cette catégorie.

- Caravanes motorisées (type 5)

Une caravane motorisée est un véhicule conçu principalement aux fins d'hébergement lors de voyages ou d'activités récréatives.

Les autres types de véhicules comme les motocyclettes ou les remorques, doivent être immatriculés à l'aide de plaques ordinaires et les droits d'immatriculation qui s'y rattachent sont les mêmes que pour les citoyens canadiens résidents de la Colombie-Britannique.

OÙ OBTENIR DES PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION DE REPRÉSENTANT ÉTRANGER ET L'ASSURANCE AUTOMOBILE DE BASE

Toutes les transactions initiales pour les véhicules admissibles à l'octroi de plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger doivent être menées auprès de l'Autoplan Sales Office de l'Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC), situé à North Vancouver. Contrairement au courtier Autoplan du secteur privé, les demandeurs doivent se présenter en personne pour faire confirmer leur admissibilité et recevoir de nouvelles plaques d'immatriculation. L'adresse de ce bureau est la suivante :

Porte 125, 151 West Esplanade
North Vancouver (Colombie-Britannique) V7M 3H9
Téléphone : 604 661-6956

En Colombie-Britannique, l'ICBC délivre les plaques d'immatriculation pour les véhicules et offre l'assurance automobile obligatoire de base. Une couverture d'assurance automobile supplémentaire peut être souscrite auprès d'ICBC ou de compagnies d'assurances privées.

OÙ RENOUVELER LES PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION DE REPRÉSENTANT ÉTRANGER ET L'ASSURANCE AUTOMOBILE DE BASE

Après la transaction initiale, à la suite de laquelle le représentant étranger reçoit ses plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger, toute transaction subséquente, notamment pour leur renouvellement (octroi d'une nouvelle vignette pour une plaque d'immatriculation existante) ou des changements à mi-parcours peut être traitée dans n'importe quel bureau Autoplan de l'ICBC.

Avant l'expiration de la vignette de validation et de l'assurance de base du véhicule (habituellement au bout d'un an, à partir de la date du premier enregistrement ou de la première immatriculation du véhicule), l'ICBC peut, à titre de courtoisie et conformément aux pratiques en cours, envoyer un rappel de renouvellement au propriétaire ou au locuteur enregistré d'un véhicule.

Toutes les amendes et toutes les contraventions liées à la circulation ou au stationnement doivent être payées avant que les vignettes de validation et l'assurance d'un véhicule puissent être renouvelées.

EXIGENCES POUR L'ENREGISTREMENT ET L'IMMATRICULATION DE VÉHICULES

Dans tous les cas, les documents prouvant la propriété ou la location d'un véhicule neuf ou d'occasion, acheté ou loué en Colombie-Britannique, doivent être fournis à l'ICBC. Les représentants étrangers arrivés depuis peu dans la province à partir d'une autre administration devraient consulter le site Web de l'ICBC, www.ICBC.com, afin de voir quels documents sont nécessaires pour enregistrer, immatriculer et assurer un véhicule en Colombie-Britannique. En plus de ces documents habituels, les pièces d'identité suivantes seront nécessaires avant que des plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger soient délivrées :

- Une carte d'identité délivrée par Affaires mondiales Canada aux fins de vérification de l'admissibilité et de confirmation de la catégorie de plaques d'immatriculation. De plus, à titre de deuxième pièce d'identité, le représentant étranger ou ses personnes à charge devront produire leur passeport, contenant la preuve d'acceptation diplomatique d'Affaires mondiales Canada.

Un organisme international peut enregistrer un véhicule en son propre nom et obtenir des plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger en fournissant une lettre avec l'en-tête de lettre de leur organisme signée par le chef de cet organisme et confirmant que l'organisme international en question est bien propriétaire ou locateur du véhicule. De plus, la personne chargée de faire immatriculer le véhicule devra produire une carte d'identité valide montrant l'acronyme de l'organisme international et son passeport contenant une preuve valide d'acceptation diplomatique délivrée à son intention par Affaires mondiales Canada.

Un État étranger ou un poste consulaire dirigé par un fonctionnaire consulaire de carrière peut enregistrer un véhicule au nom de l'État ou du poste consulaire concerné et obtenir des plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger en fournissant une lettre à l'en-tête du poste consulaire et signée par le chef de ce poste consulaire, confirmant que cet État étranger ou ce poste consulaire est bien le propriétaire ou le locateur du véhicule. De plus, la personne chargée de faire immatriculer le véhicule devra produire une preuve valide d'acceptation diplomatique délivrée à son intention par Affaires mondiales Canada.

NOTE : Un officier consulaire honoraire ne peut obtenir de plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger pour un véhicule enregistré au nom d'un État étranger ou d'un poste consulaire.

Les Bureaux de sous-divisions politiques d'États étrangers ou autres bureaux peuvent enregistrer un véhicule au nom de leur bureau et obtenir des plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger en fournissant une lettre à l'en-tête de leur bureau signée par le chef de ce bureau et confirmant que ce bureau est bien le propriétaire ou le locateur du véhicule. De plus, la personne chargée de faire immatriculer le véhicule devra produire une carte d'identité valide montrant l'acronyme du bureau, ainsi que son passeport contenant une preuve valide d'acceptation diplomatique délivrée à son intention par Affaires mondiales Canada.

Un représentant étranger ou une personne à charge d'un représentant étranger qui est ressortissant d'un autre pays peut enregistrer un véhicule à son nom en fournissant une carte d'identité délivrée par Affaires mondiales Canada ainsi que son passeport contenant une preuve valide d'acceptation diplomatique délivrée à son intention par Affaires mondiales Canada. Les numéros de la carte d'identité et de la preuve d'acceptation doivent concorder.

Un officier consulaire honoraire souhaitant obtenir une plaque d'immatriculation spéciale à préfixe « HC » en Colombie-Britannique peut le faire en produisant son exequatur abrégé sous forme de carte d'identité avec photo indiquant le « district consulaire de la Colombie-Britannique » et délivré par Affaires mondiales Canada au bureau de l'ICBC de North Vancouver, de même qu'un passeport canadien valide ou un permis de conduire valide de la Colombie-Britannique. Un officier consulaire honoraire ne peut obtenir de plaques d'immatriculation spéciales que pour **un** seul véhicule dont il est propriétaire ou locateur – tout autre véhicule devra porter des plaques d'immatriculation ordinaires de la Colombie-Britannique. Un véhicule enregistré ou loué au nom de copropriétaires, d'une société, d'une entreprise individuelle, d'une société en nom collectif, d'une coopérative ou d'un organisme à but non lucratif comme une société, n'est pas admissible.

DROITS

Des droits annuels d'immatriculation réduits, d'une somme de 12 \$, seront exigés pour les véhicules dont les plaques d'immatriculation portent les préfixes DL, CC, CS ou SR. Pour les plaques d'immatriculation portant le préfixe HC, les droits complets devront être payés au moment de l'immatriculation ou de son renouvellement.

IMPORTER UN VÉHICULE ÉTRANGER EN COLOMBIE-BRITANNIQUE

Les personnes nouvellement arrivées en Colombie-Britannique avec un véhicule à moteur étranger doivent enregistrer leur véhicule et obtenir des plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger pour ce véhicule dans les 30 jours suivant leur arrivée.

Pour les détails concernant l'enregistrement de véhicules venant d'une autre province, des États-Unis ou d'un autre pays, veuillez consulter le site Web de l'ICBC, www.ICBC.com.

FIN DU POSTE OU DE L'AFFECTATION

Dès que possible à la fin de l'affectation d'un représentant étranger et au plus tard dans les 30 jours suivant la fin de son affectation, les plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger doivent être retournées (il faut retourner les deux) à l'Autoplan Sales Office de l'ICBC de North Vancouver. Les droits d'annulation appropriés et les remboursements pour les plaques d'immatriculation et frais d'assurance seront réglés à cette occasion.

ANNULATION OU ÉCHANGE DES PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION

Si une mission étrangère, un poste consulaire, un organisme international ou tout autre bureau accrédité ou leurs représentants souhaitent remettre ou échanger leurs plaques d'immatriculation de représentant étranger contre des plaques d'immatriculation provinciales ordinaires pour une autre raison que celles mentionnées dans le présent document d'information, le chef ou le dirigeant principal doit demander l'approbation du Bureau du protocole de la Colombie-Britannique pour ce faire. Les droits d'immatriculation complets s'appliqueront pour toutes les demandes visant l'obtention de plaques d'immatriculation provinciales ordinaires.

RESSOURCES :

Toute demande liée au Programme de plaques d'immatriculation de véhicules pour représentants étrangers doit être adressée à :

Bureau du protocole
Secrétariat aux Affaires intergouvernementales
Bureau du premier ministre

C.P. 9422, Station Prov Govt
Victoria (Colombie-Britannique) V8W 9V1
Téléphone : 250 387-1616
Télécopieur : 250 356-2814
Courriel : Protocol@gov.bc.ca

Annexe 1

EXEMPLE DE PLAQUES D'IMMATRICULATION DE REPRÉSENTANTS ÉTRANGERS
POUR LA COLOMBIE-BRITANNIQUE



From: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
To: [Robb, Amanda EMLI:EX](#); ["china.vancouver"](#); [Edmonds, Claire EMLI:EX](#)
Cc: [Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#); [Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: Courtesy Video Call between Minister Ralston and Consul General TONG Xiaoling of China
Start: October 2, 2021 1:00:00 PM
End: October 2, 2021 1:20:00 PM
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Expected Attendees:

- * Hon. Bruce RALSTON, Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and responsible for Consular Corps Relations.
- * Madam TONG Xiaoling, Consul General of the People's Republic of China
- * Ms. Lucy LOBMEIER, Chief of Protocol
- * Xintao ZHENG, Vice Consul, Consulate General
- * Claire EDMONDS, Executive Assistant to the Minister

Contacts:

- * Lucy Lobmeier, Cell: **s.17**
- * Xintao ZHENG, Cell: **s.22**
- * Manjit KHAIRA, Cell: **s.17**

Discussion Topics:

- * National Day greetings.

Agenda:

1255 (PST) –Lucy Lobmeier joins MS Teams Meeting. Staff at Consulate General and Minister's Office welcome to join to confirm connection.

1258 - All other participants join meeting.

1300

- * Introductions, Indigenous peoples acknowledgement (Lucy)
- * Discussion

1320 – Meeting concludes

Note: Once the Minister and Consul General have joined the meeting, it would be appreciated if all other participants could turn off their video and mute their microphones unless otherwise requested.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting **s.15**; **s.17**
s.15; **s.17**

Or call in (audio only)

s.15; **s.17**

Canada, Victoria

Phone Conference ID **s.15**; **s.17**

Find a local number **s.15**
s.15

| [Reset PIN](#)

Learn More <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting>> | Meeting options **s.15**
s.15

From: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
To: ["china.vancouver"](#)
Bcc: [Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX](#); [Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Taiwan issue
Date: September 24, 2021 3:10:52 PM

Good afternoon Xintao,

Thank you for the information below ^{s.16}
s.16

Sincerely,

Manjit Khaira
Office of Protocol | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat |
Government of British Columbia
Email: Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca
Phone: 250.356.9459 Fax: 356.2814
Internet: <http://gov.bc.ca/officeofprotocol>

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: September 22, 2021 7:12 PM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Taiwan issue

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Thank you again for the arrangement for the meeting between
Minister Ralston and Consul General Tong.

s.16

Sincerely,

Xintao Zheng

Consul

Office of Consul General

Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

From: [china.vancouver](#)
To: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Inquiry on Vaccination Passport
Date: September 22, 2021 11:29:46 AM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day.

Thank you for your information.

Best regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca> 于2021年9月21日周二 上午8:33写道:

Good morning Vice-Consul Ding,

Thank you for enquiring about the BC Vaccination Passport and the challenges for some staff that may not have a PHN. In this regard you will find further information at the [following website as follows:](#)

“Answer:

Yes. If you are living in B.C. during the pandemic you are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine for free. We want everyone to get vaccinated, even if you don't have a Personal Health Number or other documentation. It doesn't matter if you are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. You can be a temporary visitor or international student.

You need a public health number in order to register online. If you do not have a public health number, you need to register for your vaccine by calling the province-wide call centre (1-833-838-2323). All of your information will be kept private and will never be shared with other agencies or parts of

government.”

Service is available in multiple languages and applicants will be required to provide a contact telephone number and B.C. address.

Once staff have a PHN they can then register for the BC Vaccine Card. If an individual has received either their first or second dose outside the country (or doses recognized by WHO) the following instructions on the BC Vaccine Card website apply:

If you got one or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine in another province or country, you must:

- Register with the Get Vaccinated provincial registration system
- Submit proof of an official immunization record. It will be entered into the Provincial Immunization Registry

Update my immunization record

Note: *It takes about 4 to 7 days to process.*

I hope this will be helpful. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Manjit Khaira

Office of Protocol | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Government of British Columbia

Email: Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca

Phone: 250.356.9459 Fax: 356.2814

Internet: <http://gov.bc.ca/officeofprotocol>

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: September 20, 2021 6:24 PM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Inquiry on Vaccination Passport

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day and I hope you are doing well.

I'm writing this email to inquire about some questions on the BC Vaccination Passport.

All of the Consulate General staff have two doses of Chinese Vaccines recognized by WHO, and we need to submit the information to apply for a Vaccination Passport.

Most of them get vaccinated inside our Consulate under a reciprocal arrangement by the Chinese and Canadian governments.

Some of them get vaccinated in China. Most of our staff have a Personal Health Number, a prerequisite for the BC Vaccination Passport application.

But some of our staff only have ID cards issued by Global Affairs Canada without PHN, and some to-be-accredited colleagues haven't received Canadian ID cards yet, and they only have Passports with O-1 Visa.

Under such circumstances, some of my colleagues can't get Vaccination Passports at this moment.

I would like to hear your advice on our application for Vaccination Passports and am looking forward to your feedback as soon as possible.

Best regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

From: [Protocol IGRS:EX](#)
To: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#); [Miranda, Hernani IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: FW: National Day - China
Date: October 1, 2021 11:27:25 AM

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: September 28, 2021 3:22 PM
To: Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: National Day - China

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,
We really appreciate the kind letter from Hon. Premier on the occasion of the Chinese National Day.
We would like to post the letter on the Consulate's official website.
Please let us know if your office has other suggestions.
Thank you.

Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

Protocol IGRS:EX <Protocol@gov.bc.ca> 于2021年9月24日周五 下午2:11写道 :

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from the Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia conveying greetings on the occasion of your upcoming National Day.

Sincerely,

Office of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Address | PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt | Victoria, BC V8W 9V1
Tel: **250.387.1616** | Fax: 250.356.2814

From: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Protocol IGRS:EX](#)
Bcc: ["cgoffice@vc.mofa.go.jp"; s.16](#) ["secreteria.vancouver@esteri.it"; "Frank.Flood@dfa.ie"; s.16](#) ["china.vancouver@gmail.com"; s.16](#) ["van@minbuza.nl";](#)
["mwvancouver@kln.gov.mv"; s.16](#) [s.16](#)
[s.16](#) [; "yvr@mofa.gov.tw"; Felker, Karen IGRS:EX; Gorman, Frances A IGRS:EX;](#)
[Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX; Elliott, Genevieve IGRS:EX; Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: 08-Jul-2021: Dix/Henry - LTC visitation guideline - transcript
Date: July 9, 2021 2:59:07 PM

Good afternoon,

We are pleased to provide the transcript below from the July 8, 2021 briefing regarding the latest B.C. Government news on the Novel coronavirus (COVID-19), with emphasis on long-term care and seniors assisted living and visitor restrictions.

Office of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

[PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt](#)

[Victoria BC V8V 1S2](#)

Learn More:

For non-health related information, including financial, child care and education supports, travel, transportation and essential service information, visit www.gov.bc.ca/Covid-19
Or call 1 888 COVID19 (1 888 268-4319) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Pacific time), seven days a week.

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit <http://www.bccdc.ca/> or follow @CDCofBC on Twitter.

For provincial health officer's orders, notices and guidance, visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For more information on the B.C. Business COVID-19 Support Service, including access to the dedicated website and resources area, visit <https://covid.smallbusinessbc.ca>

For the latest videos and livestreaming of COVID-19 media availabilities, visit:

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BCGovNews>
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/ProvinceofBC

For more information on the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, visit www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

Dix/Henry - LTC visitation guideline

By Vancouver Cabinet Office

Adrian Dix: Good afternoon. My name is Adrian Dix. I'm BC's Minister of Health. To my right is Dr Bonnie Henry, BC's provincial health officer.

We're here today to talk about long-term care and seniors assisted living and visitor restrictions that have been in place in different forms since March of 2020. Everyone will recall and knows who lives in LTC, who has family members or friends in LTC, the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic for everyone in LTC.

We're honoured today -- Dr Henry and I -- to speak about this on the territories of the Musqueam, of the Squamish, and of the Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Today in the regular report you would have received on COVID-19 cases in BC you'll note that there are no longer any outbreaks in LTC homes in BC as of today. There's a care home in Dawson Creek, the Rotary Care Home in Dawson Creek, that had an outbreak declared over just in the last couple of days.

As I say, since March of 2020, there have been restrictions in LTC. You will remember that on June 30th, 2020, changes were made to allow visits in LTC, social visits in LTC, and then again on March 23rd further changes were made that significantly expanded the number of visits in LTC at that time. They were done because of the significant success of immunization in reducing transmission in LTC that occurred at that time and we're happy to announce today a series of changes. I'm going to just briefly detail them and then Dr Henry will go into them in greater detail.

The first significant change is that visitors will no longer need to schedule or book in advance to visit loved ones and the limit on the number of visitors for each resident will be removed. Fully immunized visitors can visit with residents without a mask. Larger, facility-wide social events or gatherings are safe to be held again in LTC and assisted living. Indoor gatherings may include residents and staff across units of a facility while outdoor gatherings may include family and friends.

In addition to the changes in LTC and seniors' assisted living, adult day programs for seniors and in-facility respite can fully resume providing additional health and well-being benefits for seniors and care givers in the community. Those programs are essential to seniors programs in BC and seniors care. They, of course, have been interrupted in the course of the pandemic and those changes are significant.

We also want to note that there will be new requirements, that these changes will come into force on July the 19th. This will give both care providers, LTC workers, and ourselves a chance to work through all of the details so we're fully prepared for these changes. These changes are coming and they are going to make, I think, an important difference for everyone who lives in LTC and especially and as well their families and their friends. It will be able to allow, with some continuing restrictions, for the safety of people in LTC true, even spontaneous unscheduled visits in LTC that will allow, I think, a return to a sense of normalcy

and social activity in LTC.

I would note that there will be other changes brought into effect that Dr Henry will speak about. They involve, in some cases, provincial health orders that LTC and assisted living workers will be required to report vaccination status to their employer. Workers that are not fully vaccinated will be required to wear a mask at work and be tested for COVID-19 using regular rapid tests. Volunteers and personal service providers entering LTC settings must be fully vaccinated. Masks will be required for visitors who are not fully vaccinated. Masks will not be required for visitors who are fully vaccinated except when travelling through common areas of a care home.

In other words, one arrives, one goes and visits, and when the visit occurs, when both the resident and the visitor are fully vaccinated, can be done without masks and each site will continue to maintain a sign-in list for contact tracing purposes and actively promote adherence to all infection prevention control protocols.

This has been a long time coming and everybody, I think, as I say, associated with LTC understands the consequences, the necessary consequences, but the consequences, of restriction in visitation in LTC. We have, of course, made two significant sets of changes before -- last June and again in March -- but today's changes will allow, I believe, some return to normalcy, while continuing to have safety in LTC and assisted living, and the changes to resume adult day programs, the changes to resume in-facility respite will make a real difference for seniors everywhere.

I want to acknowledge the exceptional work done by everybody in the LTC sector, of people who provide personal care, to people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. This is an important day. It reflects the progress we're making.

Today, as you'll know, more than 79% of adults, more than 78% -- 78.4% -- of all those over 12 have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and significantly 42% of those over 18 and 40% of those over 12 have received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, numbers that will be significantly higher when we arrive at July 19th to these new changes.

So the circumstances are in place. Again, no LTC outbreaks, we have significant decline in test positivity for COVID-19 and reducing cases, and in the LTC sector, overwhelmingly, staff and residents have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. In other words, it's time for a change and it will make an enormous difference.

I say it at a personal level, for like many of you I have loved family in LTC, and as for everyone involved in the system, this will make, I think, a significant difference in bringing life back to normal after a very challenging and long response and limit on visitation in LTC.

It's now my honour to introduce Dr Bonnie Henry to give more details of these changes.

Dr Bonnie Henry: Thank you very much and good afternoon, and I don't need to say that it is an important day for everybody, particularly for seniors and elders living in LTC and seniors assisted living, and for those who have family and loved ones in care.

The past 18 months has been dramatic on all of our lives, but no more so and no more people are more severely impacted than seniors and elders in our LTC and seniors assisted living.

They were the first to suffer severe illness from COVID-19 and you will recall our first deaths were at a LTC facility here in Vancouver, and really was a harbinger of the heart break that was to come in many, many places.

We acted quickly to reduce risk by putting in outbreak measures that included restricting visitation very severely for the early parts of this pandemic. It was an incredibly difficult decision to make when we know that social connection is so, so important for seniors' health and well-being. But until a vaccine was available, it was a necessary and important step for protecting people in these most vulnerable situations. Later, we prioritized people living and working in LTC and seniors assisted living for immunization and our intent was to protect those who were most vulnerable first to try and reduce that devastation that we had seen. And we are now seeing the positive outcomes from this.

Henry: Today, the vast majority of seniors in care and residents and workers are vaccinated. We can see that light at the end of the tunnel. Our ongoing vaccine effectiveness in long-term care tells us that the vaccine program that we have is working and continues to work to protect those people who are living in those settings. That is really good news. We saw that through this most difficult third wave, where we didn't have the degree of outbreaks that we saw even in a few months earlier, particularly in long-term care. That's the good news.

Because of the progress that we've made across the board here in BC and the fact that almost 80% of us across BC have received their first dose of vaccine, we're now at a place where we can more fully open and get back to visitation once again.

Effective July 19th, we, through the safe visitation guidelines, residents and loved ones can safely reunite. What does this mean? Changes in long-term care and seniors assisted living, the changes in the guidelines, will mean that visitors will no longer need to schedule or book their visit in advance. The expectation is that every facility will ensure that there are visiting hours that are available in evenings, at different times of the day, weekends, et cetera. They will have people there to ensure that people are screened when they arrive.

Each site will continue to maintain a sign-in list so that we do know who has been in a facility if and when we do have outbreaks. There will no longer be a limit on the number of visitors each resident can have. Small groups of friends or family can gather together for a visit and, if people are visiting from other parts of the province, for so long haven't been able to see their loved ones, they'll be able to do that without having to book ahead.

An important change is that we do expect that all visitors, recognizing the risk that we continue to have in long-term care, will be fully immunized for COVID-19 -- that means two weeks after the two doses of vaccine. Visitors will be asked to provide proof of immunization when they arrive at a facility and will continue to need to wear a medical mask when they're in common areas, but they'll no longer be required to follow those infection prevention measures when they're in the room with their loved one or in the area with their loved one. We can expect that these mask-free smiles will make a lot of people very happy.

For those who are not fully immunized or are not willing or able to produce their proof of immunization, the precautions that we have in place now will be continued to make sure that we don't add additional risk in our care homes.

As the minister mentioned, another change is that the adult day programs will fully resume. They had been limited in some areas and so this will provide additional health and well-being

benefits for seniors, as well, of course, as for their families.

Finally, larger facility-wide social events and gatherings will be able to be started again. Indoor gatherings include residents and staff across all units of a facility, while outdoor gatherings can now include family and friends as well. We know that these changes will be a big sense of joy and relief to many, many people. We also know that some people will be nervous, perhaps feeling as though we're moving a bit too quickly.

We have considered things very carefully and we will continue to be watching. We've scheduled these changes to start on July 19th so we'll have a good sense of what we're seeing in our community and the risk in transmission in areas around BC as we've been monitoring through the next step of our restart.

We are moving these restrictions slowly and carefully, as we have for all of our steps in BC. We must, of course, continue to have the basics of disease prevention in care homes. This will not change. That means things like not coming in if you're not feeling well yourself, making sure that you're cleaning your hands regularly, making sure that you're taking those general measures to prevent transmission of infection.

Visitors will continue to be screened for signs and symptoms of any illness, including COVID-19, before their visits. We'll be also bringing in some additional protections for people living in facilities. We will be implementing a provincial health officer order that will require facilities to provide public health with names and personal health numbers for all staff, residents and volunteers so that facility immunization rates can be determined by public health. This will allow us to focus immunization efforts to support facilities where immunization rates are not as high as they need to be, and to ensure we understand outbreak risks and can work with facilities to take preventive measures.

Workers who are not fully vaccinated will be required to adhere to the ongoing infection prevention and control measures that we have now. That includes wearing masks. As well, they will be asked -- they will be required to be tested for COVID-19 using rapid tests three times a week. Volunteers and personal service providers who generally work in long-term care will need to be fully vaccinated before they'll be able to resume activities in care homes.

We are also taking steps to address some of the staffing challenges that we know have been a challenge, particularly as we move into the summer here. The Ministry of Health will be working closely with health authorities, unions and facility operators to work through the details of how we can best identify and enable pools of fully immunized health care workers to move between sites to support the need for temporary respite and vacations over the summer months.

This will help make sure we have staff we need to provide high quality care for seniors in the coming weeks and months. This, again, will be done safely and carefully, and we will accommodate this by modifying the single site order that we've had in place for over a year now to make sure that we can maintain the staffing at appropriate levels, but to do it in a way that protects the safety of residents.

I want to take a moment to thank each and every resident in long-term care, to thank all of the workers, whether it's the care aides, the nurses, the food staff, the cleaning staff. I know this has been an incredibly challenging time and everybody has pitched in to try and make sure we can best protect people in the most vulnerable of environments in long-term care. It's made a

huge difference.

For everybody who's been immunized, that has made a game-changer for all of us, but particularly for seniors and elders in long-term care. That has brought us to the place where we are now, where we can get back to more normal interactions to support the health and wellness of residents.

To the families and friends who have missed those important shared moments over this past 18 months, the ability to hold your family member, your friend close again, I hope that this will be a sense of sweet joy as I expect it will be for many.

This is an important day. There are many, many challenges that we still have facing us, both with this pandemic and with our health care services, and with everything that's going on in our province right now. It is important that this step be out there -- people know that there is light on the horizon. It also reflects to us the importance and the effectiveness of the vaccine programs that we have here.

I encourage everyone who has not yet received their vaccine that it is available to you around the province, and that -- step up now. Anybody can drop in anywhere for your first dose. We're not making tremendous progress in getting people second doses and fully protected as well. Immunization is what allows us to move through this next phase and to provide additional support and contact with our loved ones in long-term care and seniors assisted living.

I want to thank you very much and we're happy to take questions.

Q & A

Reporter: I just wanted to start out with a question for a colleague. Families have concerns about long-term care staff and vaccination. Why won't vaccinations be mandatory? And will families have a choice about whether their loved ones are cared for by unvaccinated staff?

Henry: As we noted, and maybe that wasn't quite as obvious as it should have been, but we are taking measures to ensure that health care workers, particularly in long-term care, as a start, are either immunized or continue to take the infection control precautions that are in place right now, as well as additional testing that will be required for any non-vaccinated staff. So those are measures that will be coming into place.

Currently, all health care workers are following the infection control guidance in long-term care, and that will be revised over the next few weeks to make allowance for the protection that we know health care workers have from immunization. So yes, it will be a requirement that all health care workers, all people who work in long-term care, are immunized, or they will continue to require masking and testing on a routine basis starting July 19.

So that is a part of how we're managing to protect people in long-term care as well. It's really not practical for people to choose which staff members they have, but we make sure that all of these protections are in place to prevent transmission in these settings. And I will say, as well, we know that vaccination is very effective for residents as well, so that's an important part of making sure that the whole community in a care home is protected.

Reporter: After BC's last deadly heat wave in 2009, recommendations were made. There was a

series of reports urging governments and health officials to take action when temperatures that weren't even close to what we saw in last week's heat wave were forecast. The BC CDC, I'm looking at a report, they had a specific evidence-based set of steps and recommendations to trigger they call a heat health emergency for greater Vancouver. Instead, a lot of these recommendations in these reports were not implemented, and we saw municipalities had a typical response to a very atypical heat wave.

So I just want to know -- why did you not declare a public health or heat health emergency with a dire forecast for the heat dome? And why didn't you do more with the warnings and knowledge from the 2009 deaths?

Henry: I'm glad you brought that up, because the process that we have in place is based on those reports and Dr Henderson, Dr Kosatsky, the response that we had to this heat wave was based on that report and was based on the processes that we've had in place.

You'll see, as well, on the website, there is the health response as well as the municipal response. Those are plans that we have developed across the province. And we did actually enact exactly what you're talking about. On the Thursday, when it became apparent that the heat was going to be arriving, we had our initial meeting. We had our provincial heat alert response committee meeting on the Friday morning, and a heat emergency was declared in every regional health authority. That is what triggers all of the different municipal responses, as well as health authority responses in different areas.

And so you will note from that report that this is done by a regional health authority basis, and so the decision was made by each regional health authority to declare a heat health emergency. And that was done on the Friday. So, yes, these are really important measures that we took and, as you will note, we have done them a number of times since 2009, but we've not had anywhere near the heat alert response or the heat waves that we had in 2009. And of course, this one was even greater than that. And of course, the usual response that we have, based on what happened in 2009, clearly was not sufficient to reach everybody in this heat wave, for sure.

But we are working, and Dr Henderson and myself are working with the coroner's service to do the same type of analysis that we did back then, to get a better sense of where were the places that people were that were most at risk, and they vary across the province. We saw the most impact, as we were indicating from 2009, in the urban heat islands, particularly in Vancouver, but mostly in the Fraser Health region. So we'll be looking at each of these deaths with the coroner's service.

We're also looking at the ambulance call records. This is ongoing surveillance that we have been doing every year since the mid 2000s to try and better understand the impacts of heat in BC and the things that we can do, both short-term and long-term, to mitigate those. It's everything from the types of building codes we have, from the amount of green space in communities, and then the response, which is things like opening cooling centres, things like being able to provide water, advice to people about how to stay cool in your own environment. These are all things that were done, and we're going to see what we can learn from this past week's extreme heat wave so that we're better prepared for the rest of this summer, but also to look at whether there's specific communities that we need to do additional measures in, not just for this summer, but for the future as well.

Reporter: First off, thank you for this good news for so many families that I've been talking to

over the last few months about when they're going to be able to see their loved ones without any restrictions.

I was hoping to ask you about the single site order and whether or not that is going to remain in effect for the foreseeable future at least, to ensure that staff are not mixing from one care home to another.

Henry: We are going to be modifying the single site order to allow for some limited movement of staff to be in a casual pool, essentially, to be able to provide respite for workers as they go off on vacations and take some time off over these next few months. But only fully vaccinated health care workers will be able to do that, and what we're doing is working with facilities and with the health authorities to have groups of facilities so workers won't be in multiple different facilities, but they could provide casual support in facilities where they're stretched or where there's staffing issues.

Those are all the details we're going to be working out. We've been working with the sector over the last little while to try and find the best, safest way to do that. So the single site order will remain in effect, and we're moving that into long-term policy because there's a number of other reasons, including more than just COVID, that make it an important quality of care issue for residents in long-term care. But in the short term, we are going to be doing a modification of the order so that on a limited basis we can have pools of vaccinated workers that can support a number of facilities.

Reporter: Regarding more about the heat wave, we heard the Premier say earlier this week that, especially for seniors in care homes and other seniors that may be living alone, we're going to have to start building so that we have air conditioning automatically included in our site plans and things like that. Are you hopeful that we are going to be moving towards a model now where all care homes will have air conditioning and we will ensure that building codes include that so that when we deal with climate change, we have that available now?

Henry: Yeah, that's one of the things that came out of 2009 and for heat waves in other parts of the country. In BC, we're not a province that has experienced routine heat waves, unlike places like Toronto, when I worked there, for example, where heat waves were a function every year, and we had different ways of dealing with them. So it is something that is less common here, and certainly we've never, ever experienced something like what happened this past week.

So, yes, we are looking at care homes. There's data around different types of cooling that can be very effective. Clearly, having air conditioning is the best, but having portable air conditioners or coolers, cooling units, in specific rooms can help mitigate things in the short term. So we absolutely will be looking at that.

I will say that one of the things about care homes is that, when we look at 2009, and we'll be looking in more detail at this past week, but we tend to see it's people in the community, so between ages 65 and 75 in the community, and then older people, who are more at risk. And that is likely because in care homes, there is somebody watching you, somebody who can tell if you're having effects from the heat, and we have measures in place in long-term care homes to try and protect residents when we know a heat wave is coming. And that's one of the things that happened last week -- for example, providing cool baths for residents, making sure that there are some air conditioned places, and that people are monitored.

So we will be looking at all of those things in some detail. We also need to look at how do we better equip our environment to mitigate the effects of heat. That means things like planting trees, having awnings over windows, looking to some of the countries that experience heat on a routine basis for the things that we can do on a community basis.

I know some of the temperatures are expecting to go up again next week. These are the times when we need to look after our neighbours. Check in on each other. Do those simple things that can help you to recover from heat, Things like staying hydrated, keeping a cool towel in the fridge and wiping yourself down with it at night, having a damp towel or cloth or sheet that helps cool you off through the night.

There's lots of good information on the BC CDC website on that, and we'll be putting out more messages. But we need to understand what are the short-term things we can do to support particularly community dwelling seniors in housing that is more at risk for heat accumulating, but also in our care system as well.

Dix: First of all, and I think people know this, there is, with respect to -- let's call the heat dome or the heat wave that occurred, there is a review being undertaken by the coroner. It is an independent review, it's based on her statute. I want to say that every case, it's our expectation that every case will be part of that review. Every person who passed away will be part of that review. Every person's loved ones, and what happened to every person matters.

And that will occur -- that is occurring now. It is the absolutely best kind of independent review because it's statutory. It will be led by the coroner with the support of others, including the provincial health officer, but led by the coroner. And as far as I'm concerned, every single person matters in that review, and actions will be taken based on recommendations in those reviews. That's the first thing.

The second thing is, you're quite, Marcella, there's been a lack of investment on the capital side and in some long-standing long-term care homes. And there's a number of issues including a multi-bed rooms, and including the fact that many environment -- most significant, long-term care facilities, date from the 1960s and 1970s, need to be rebuilt, replaced, remediated. And that process is beginning and will happen.

Obviously, that's a longer term process, it's why long-term care was a very much singular focus, a very significant focus of all the health authorities during the heat wave period. And a significant number of actions were taken, but some of the long term solutions include bringing our long-term care homes into the 21st century, and that will happen. I think those are important changes that must happen.

And as Dr Henry just said, of course, many of those, most affected by the heat wave, were not those already connected to the health care system, although absolutely everyone was affected. There are people in long-term care, there are people in assisted living, there are people getting publicly [inaudible] at home support or other forms of home support, but obviously, many people, especially those living at home and others were affected by the extraordinary heat indoors, during the heat dome and, as I say, all of that are significantly reviewed.

We're not waiting for the review to take some steps that will be need to be taken, with the respect to that, but obviously, it is significant what happened and requires a significant response.

Reporter: Doctor Henry, I mean, in the latest modelling you had alluded to the fact that we will likely see a slight rise in cases as we open up more with this next phase. We're wondering how many cases of COVID in a care home might trigger the resumption or restrictions at the current level and if that kind of thing is a contingency you've got, kind of a [inaudible], just in case?

Henry: Absolutely. So we still have the same requirements in place for declaration of either enhanced surveillance for outbreaks in long-term care homes, and that will continue. Sadly, we have still seen, despite the high levels of immunization, we've seen that this virus can cause outbreaks in long-term care. Thankfully, since the immunization in long-term care has gone up dramatically, those have mostly been small and relatively contained.

But we know that with some of the newer variants, they can still spread pretty quickly, and people are very vulnerable to succumbing and having severe illness from the virus. The outbreak measures are still in place, and during an outbreak, we suspend visitations, so it will go back to the previous restrictions that are in place during an outbreak.

Reporter: If we could get an answer in French from Minister Dix as well, for my colleagues, thank you. We're looking for clarity about capacity guidelines -- the current rules for indoor theatres is 50 people or 50% of capacity, whichever is greater. If a theatre has the capacity of 50 seats, are they allowed 50 people or 50%? And I suppose, more to the point, is the greater number of the two is full capacity, does that not defeat the purpose of these kind of distancing measures in the first place?

Henry: Yeah. So we are easing back into this next step to full capacity. And yes, so the minimum is 50. If your capacity is 60, then you can have 50 people. If your capacity is 100, you can have 50 people. If your capacity is 300, you can have 50%. And it really was -- we were at 50 prior to going to step three, so it is increasing the capacity from there, and maximizing the amount of space. We know that risk goes up with greater numbers of people, so that's why we put in the 50% for the larger venues, and trying to maximize the space to keep people apart if needed in those venues.

Reporter: Hi, Dr Henry, here in the Interior, we're seeing cases relative to the rest of province remain disproportionately high, making up 35% to 40%, sometimes 50% of the province's cases, while we only have about 15% of the population here. It's been going on like this, rising for a couple of months now, [inaudible] say what you're seeing different here in the Interior, than other regions?

Henry: Yeah. So obviously, we're concerned about that too. And although the proportion is rising, the numbers are still staying relatively low. The other thing we look at is the percent positive in testing and that has come down in the Interior, although it is higher than the very low rates we're seeing in many other parts of the province. So the proportion is really because it's come down so much in Vancouver Coastal, in Fraser Health. But, yes, it is concerning, it's still small numbers and it's in several different focal areas.

As you know, I was able to spend some time with the team up in Kelowna, to get a better understanding of what was happening in the Interior, and I do feel that they have a strong public health response and that they are managing cases. We know where each of the transmission [inaudible] is happening, so I do expect it will slow down in the coming days and weeks, as we manage this and as we get immunization rates up. So it is clusters, primarily in smaller communities, where there's been an introduction and some transmission, particularly

in pockets of unvaccinated people.

So this is where we're focusing on our ground game, as Dr Ballem likes to call it, is trying to get vaccine out to people. And that is a challenge, particularly in the north and Interior, where we have many small communities. And of course, right now, where we have everything from wildfires to smoke as well to contend with.

Reporter: Can you speak to where you're seeing greater transmission? I know the Central Okanagan was seeing higher than other places at one point. And are you seeing any transmission related to travels from out-of-town or out-of-province? Here in Kelowna, it's full-on tourism season.

Henry: Yes, I noticed that when I was there, that things were happening very quickly. Some has been related to travel, yes, from other parts of the country, in particular. Mostly again, in people who are not vaccinated, and pockets of transmission. The Central Okanagan has gone down quite a bit.

The last I checked, and I'm sorry I didn't look at the CHSA level plots today, so the last ones I saw, there was again a cluster and a couple of smaller communities in the South Okanagan and along the border with Alberta as well. I think it was Invermere again, that there is still some ongoing transmission. But I can certainly get Interior Health to give you some more of those details.

Dix: I encourage everyone to get vaccinated. I think it's very important not to overstate a single piece of information; you'll recall -- I think it was during a modelling presentation by Dr Henry -- there were 11 cases in Grand Forks, and given the relative population of Grand Forks it seemed like a lot of cases but within a couple of weeks it had gone down to zero in the area, and there was no transmission in that community.

What we are seeing, and what we have seen in the last week or so, I think the seven day rolling average is around 3% test positivity in Interior Health and in the other four health authorities it's now under 1%. Of course that wasn't always the case during the pandemic. People will know that test positivity rates were very high in Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Health. The message to everyone in the Interior, and I think Interior Health has been doing a really good job of this, is that there are significant opportunities for first dose immunizations everywhere in Interior Health and it's important to take advantage of that and get immunized. It will not just keep you safe, not just keep your family safe, not just keep your community safe, but it will allow you to do things, potentially including travel to other countries.

It's time to get first doses and for those people who are ready to get their second doses and have been invited -- get your second dose. Continuing to raise immunization levels as we have been throughout BC is a significant way to do that and I think Interior Health has been doing a particularly good job at reaching out to communities, there are opportunities every day; check out the Interior Health website about pop-up first dose vaccination clinics that are available to you, and get vaccinated.

Reporter: I was wondering what information you're ordering facilities to provide about residents, staff, visitors and others? Why is it important to determine the immunization status of those people?

Henry: One of the many challenges we have is understanding the immunization rates by

facility, and that's not something that's easy to get because we provide immunization to health care workers and to residents in separate ways. So what the order will do, is require all facilities to provide public health with the names and PHNs of all workers, volunteers and residents and then we in public health can cross-link that with our immunization registry.

The one thing we do have is a registry of all vaccines that have been given to everybody in British Columbia. That way we can verify the immunization status of everybody in those facilities and we can do that and create a database by facility. It will take a bit of time to do that in the first instance to get it all together, but we'll be requiring updating as there's turnover of both residents and staff in long-term care homes. What this will give us in public health is the ability to understand, on a facility basis, exactly who's immunized and who isn't. We will be targeting workers who are not immunized and making sure they have all the information they need to make that informed decision about receiving vaccine or not, and if they choose not to be immunized we'll be ensuring that they continue with additional personal protective measures within the facility when providing care as well as additional testing.

That is how we're going to be working it all out over the next little while, and while we have all of that information on an individual basis, being able to understand it at a facility-by-facility basis will be really important. And it is a partnership with public health and each individual facility to make sure we do everything we can to prevent this virus, and make sure residents and staff are protected.

Reporter: I'm just wondering if you have a percentage amount of senior care workers who have been fully vaccinated?

Henry: I don't have it off the top of my head. We do have aggregate numbers of the numbers of workers that we have in long-term care and the percent who have been immunized, but it is very high overall; it's in the high 80s for two doses, and even higher -- it's in the 80s for two doses. We can get you the exact numbers.

But it underscores that there are pockets where it is considerably lower in some facilities, so we need to know on a facility-by-facility basis. The rate of immunization in residents is even higher than that -- two doses in residents is in the 90s. There are very few residents who have not been immunized and there's good reasons why some of them haven't, but we have that at an aggregate level and even at a health authority level, but not at a facility level. That's what this new order will facilitate.

Reporter: As we've seen, the vaccine numbers go down recently, but we are also seeing the virus, especially the Delta variant being dominant. Do we have any concerns for [inaudible] coming to the province?

Henry: We've obviously been looking at that really closely. The modellers and the team at BCCDC have been working with us on trying to understand where we look. We've been watching what's happening in other countries, looking at the data about who's immunized, where's transmission is happening. The UK is a country that we look at quite closely and we have a good relationship with them, so we can understand some of the details behind some of the numbers there.

What we are looking at with our program here in BC and really across Canada is our approach using mostly mRNA vaccines, having the extended interval that allowed us to get very high rates of immunization, and also across the board. You know, we started earlier than countries

like the UK, for example, in immunizing younger people -- teenagers and young people -- and we have very good rates, at least of first doses and now moving into second doses in that age group.

So, these are really important things.

The other thing that we've been doing all along is monitoring vaccine effectiveness. So, that helps us understand the level of protection in the real world that's happening, and I mention this in why we feel confident in continuing to open up visitation in our long-term care homes is because that monitoring of how well the vaccine is actually protecting people is still very high and we're continuing to see that it's good, strong protection. Today being the first day in a long time where we have not had any long-term care outbreaks is a reflection of how well the vaccine is working as more and more of the population get immunized and rates of transmission go down.

So, we're watching all of that, plus we're looking at . . . As I mentioned many times, we're doing whole genome sequencing of every case.

So, we do have a good understanding of what strains are circulating. We've had some blips in Delta, we've had still the predominant strains, we're seeing Alpha and Gamma, and we're continuing with our strong public health follow-up of cases to make sure that we're isolating people, that we're not allowing outbreaks and clusters to spread rapidly.

So, these are all things that put us in good stead, but there are unknowns as we move into the fall.

So, we will be continuing to watch. Some of the modelling that we've done here and also across Canada shows that it's unlikely with the level of immunization we have that we'll see a large resurgence in the fall, but it may be pushed out into early in the new year.

There are many, many things that we do not yet know. We don't yet know how long this protection is going to last, particularly for people who are seniors and elders who are immune compromised, who were immunized with a shorter interval earlier on. So, we'll be watching that very carefully and we'll planning for if we need to have a booster dose at some time for certain populations. A third dose maybe in the fall. I think it's unlikely from what we're learning that we'll need to have a booster dose for everybody in the fall or even into next year, but that's only from what we're seeing so far.

So, there's still so much that we don't know. It's really hard to predict, but the things that we're following most closely are that vaccine effectiveness. So, that real world protection that we're seeing in even some of the most vulnerable settings.

So, there are a lot of studies that are coming out about antibody levels and whether the antibody levels are a reflection of protection or not is something we just don't yet know, so we need to do more and more of correlating those antibody levels with actual protection, and these are the things that the teams are putting a lot of time and effort into both nationally, and we're talking about that this morning with our Canadian Immunity Task Force and some of the work they're doing and with our vaccine effectiveness studies that are happening across the country.

We are in a relatively unique position in Canada, not only because of the age groups and the

interval that we've been using, but also because most of our immunization has been with mRNA vaccines and we're doing the mixing and matching of mRNA vaccines with a longer interval. And there's a number of very elegant studies that are going to help us understand whether that gives people better protection, longer lasting protection, and those are the things that we will be talking about when we have more information as we learn more in the coming months.

Reporter: As we see countries with higher vaccination levels seeing upticks in cases and have already slowed down reopening due to the Delta virus, [inaudible] our province should do that too to slow it down a little bit?

Henry: What we've been looking at are the things that tell us if vaccine is working, and what we're not seeing is virus spreading rapidly in the community. So, we have some Delta virus. It has been introduced into the community. We had an outbreak in long-term care, but the measures that we're taking are working against that virus, as well as for the other virus strains that are causing infections and spreading in the province as well. It is in pockets where we have people who are unimmunized and having contact that we're still seeing spread.

So, those are the things that in public health we're following up on, trying to isolate people, jumping on clusters before they spread, but so far we have not seen that it is affecting the protection that we're getting from immunization.

So, that's why the message continues to be we all need to be immunized as soon as possible. We've seen a slowing, particularly in the younger age groups and when younger people have contact with each other, as we're moving to step three of the opening up, we will see more cases and it's going to be more and more important that all of us be immunized as soon as possible and then getting our second dose as soon as we can because we know that's effective and it's working. Right now, even a single dose is working at protecting us from having widespread transmission of any of the strains that are circulating in BC right now.

Dix: And just really briefly in response to I think Lisa Cordasco's question earlier, we'll be providing to members of the media the aggregate data for immunization and long-term care and assisted living. We'll be providing that to all of you through the health communications department. So that will be coming to all of you soon, the numbers referred to by Dr Henry.

And with that, thank you very much for your questions. We'll see you soon.

END OF TRANSCRIPT

From: [china.vancouver](#)
To: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu
Date: October 27, 2021 3:05:51 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good afternoon. And thank you for your fast response.

I had put your email forward to my colleague in Ottawa. Mr. Wang Nan, the secretary of the Ambassador will contact you directly.

Best regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul
Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca> 于2021年10月27日周三 下午1:01写道:

Good morning Vice-Consul Ding,

Thank you for your email below. We are doing well and likewise I hope the same for you. Prior to a call between His Excellency might it be possible to have a call between a senior official at the Embassy and our Deputy Minister, Mr. Silas Brownsey. Additionally, could you advise on specific topics the Ambassador may wish to discuss with the Minister?

Sincerely,

Manjit Khaira

Office of Protocol | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat | Office of the Premier

Government of British Columbia

Email: Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca

Phone:250.356.9459 Fax:356.2814

Internet: <http://gov.bc.ca/officeofprotocol>

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: October 26, 2021 6:22 PM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day and I hope you are doing well.

The Chinese Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency, Mr. Cong Peiwu would like to have a phone call with the Hon. Minister Bruce Ralston. I would like to request your kind assistance to set up the phone meeting. And may I ask is the Hon. Minister available this week? Otherwise, please let me know which date and time would suit you best.

Best Regards,

DING, Tian

Vice-Consul

Office of Consul General

Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

From: [Protocol IGRS:EX](#)
To: ["china.vancouver@gmail.com"](mailto:china.vancouver@gmail.com)
Subject: National Day - China
Date: September 24, 2021 2:11:23 PM
Attachments: [CHN_NDL_2021-09-24.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from the Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia conveying greetings on the occasion of your upcoming National Day.

Sincerely,

Office of Protocol

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Address | PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt | Victoria, BC V8W 9V1
Tel: [250.387.1616](tel:250.387.1616) | Fax: 250.356.2814

From: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
To: [Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#); [Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: Fwd: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu
Date: October 26, 2021 8:18:49 PM

FYI and discussion at daily tomorrow.

Manjit Khaira
Mobile: s.17

Begin forwarded message:

From: "china.vancouver" <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Date: October 26, 2021 at 6:22:07 PM PDT
To: "Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX" <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day and I hope you are doing well.

The Chinese Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency, Mr. Cong Peiwu would like to have a phone call with the Hon. Minister Bruce Ralston. I would like to request your kind assistance to set up the phone meeting. And may I ask is the Hon. Minister available this week? Otherwise, please let me know which date and time would suit you best.

Best Regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul
Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

From: [Westgate, Rachael IGRS:EX](#)
To: [Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX](#); [Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX](#); [Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#); [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Phone Call Request From Chinese Ambassador
Date: October 21, 2021 9:56:01 AM

Hello all,

PO has requested that, ^{s.16} we send regrets.

Thanks,

R

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX <Sukumar.Periwal@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2021 9:13 AM
To: Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX <Lauren.Hamman@gov.bc.ca>; Westgate, Rachael IGRS:EX <Rachael.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX <Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>; Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX <Lucy.Lobmeier@gov.bc.ca>; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Phone Call Request From Chinese Ambassador

Thanks Lauren.

Rachael - bringing you into the loop as discussed on the Daily.

On Oct 21, 2021, at 9:10 AM, Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX <Lauren.Hamman@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Yes I agree.

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX <Sukumar.Periwal@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2021 8:54 AM
To: Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX <Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX <Lucy.Lobmeier@gov.bc.ca>; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>; Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX <Lauren.Hamman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Phone Call Request From Chinese Ambassador

Good morning

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16 . Would welcome Lauren's thoughts.

Lucy - would you like to raise this at the Daily to get Silas's views?

Thanks

Sukumar

On Oct 21, 2021, at 8:16 AM, Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX
<Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thoughts? Advice?

s.16

would we recommend this call?

Sincerely yours,

Annette Jordan
Protocol Manager
Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Tel: +1-604-660-6816 Fax: +1-604-660-2520
Mobile: +1-604-561-4431
Suite 730 – 999 Canada Place
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E1

Or

2nd floor, 620 Superior Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1V2

Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe

From: Chinese Embassy <chineseembassy.ca@gmail.com>

Sent: October 20, 2021 6:27 PM

To: Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX <Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Phone Call Request From Chinese Ambassador

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good day, Annette

Hope you are doing well.

Chinese Ambassador CONG Peiwu would like to kindly request a phone call with Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia, next week.

Ambassador Cong would like to^{s.16}
s.16

with Premier

Horgan through this chance.

Could you please kindly check if Premier Horgan will be available?
Looking forward to your reply.

Best regards,

Nan

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Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canada

515 St Patrick Street, Ottawa Ontario K1N 5H3

Tel : 613-7890058

Fax : 613-7891412

[Http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/](http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/)

[Follow us on twitter@ChinaEmbOttawa](#)

FW: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

From: Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX <Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>
To: IGRS FOI IGRS:EX <IGRS.FOI@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 10, 2021 9:09:39 AM PST

Sincerely yours,

Annette Jordan
Protocol Manager
Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Tel: +1-604-660-6816 Fax: +1-604-660-2520
Mobile: +1-604-561-4431
Suite 730 – 999 Canada Place
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E1

Or

2nd floor, 620 Superior Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1V2

Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe

From: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 8:19 PM
To: Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX <Lucy.Lobmeier@gov.bc.ca>; Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX <Annette.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

FYI and discussion at daily tomorrow.

Manjit Khaira
Mobile: s.17

Begin forwarded message:

From: "china.vancouver" <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Date: October 26, 2021 at 6:22:07 PM PDT
To: "Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX" <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day and I hope you are doing well.

The Chinese Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency, Mr. Cong Peiwu would like to have a phone call with the Hon. Minister Bruce Ralston. I would like to request your kind assistance to set up the phone meeting. And may I ask is the Hon. Minister available this week? Otherwise, please let me know which date and time would suit you best.

Best Regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul

Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

From: [Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX](#)
To: [Lobmeier, Lucy S IGRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Jordan, Annette IGRS:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu
Date: October 27, 2021 2:32:36 PM

FYI.

From: Chinese Embassy <chineseembassy.ca@gmail.com>
Sent: October 27, 2021 2:27 PM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi, Khaira,

Thank you for your reply.

This is WANG, Nan from Chinese Embassy. I am the assistant of Ambassador Cong and will follow up on the phone call issue.

For your information that I'm coordinating a phone call between Mr. Silas Brownsey and Mr. HU Lihua, Political Counsellor of the embassy, with your colleague Annette Jordan today. Mr. Hu will discuss the request with **Mr. Brownsey on the call.**

Best regards,

Nan

china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com> 于2021年10月27日周三 下午5:09写道 :

----- 转发的邮件 -----

发件人 : **Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX** <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
日期 : 2021年10月27日 周三13:01
主题 : RE: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu
收件人 : china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>

Good morning Vice-Consul Ding,

Thank you for your email below. We are doing well and likewise I hope the same for you. Prior to a call between His Excellency might it be possible to have a call between a senior official at the

Embassy and our Deputy Minister, Mr. Silas Brownsey. Additionally, could you advise on specific topics the Ambassador may wish to discuss with the Minister?

Sincerely,

Manjit Khaira
Office of Protocol | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat | Office of the Premier
Government of British Columbia
Email: Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca
Phone: 250.356.9459 Fax: 356.2814
Internet: <http://gov.bc.ca/officeofprotocol>

From: china.vancouver <china.vancouver@gmail.com>
Sent: October 26, 2021 6:22 PM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX <Manjit.Khaira@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Phone Call Request from Ambassador Cong Peiwu

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Manjit,

Good day and I hope you are doing well.

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Best Regards,

DING, Tian
Vice-Consul
Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

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Office of Consul General
Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Vancouver

--

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canada

515 St Patrick Street, Ottawa Ontario K1N 5H3
Tel : 613-7890058
Fax : 613-7891412
[Http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/](http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/)
[Follow us on twitter@ChinaEmbOttawa](#)