



# EnviroFor Reporter

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## ENVIROFOR NEWS:

### Spring Session Highlights (Thus Far)

The BC Legislative Assembly resumed on February 8th and [Budget details](#) were announced February 22nd. The Budget highlighted several priorities for the government, including increased spending on childcare, healthcare and climate related initiatives. Housing, taxes, Indigenous reconciliation and emergency preparedness were also mentioned. Several new government bills have been introduced since the session began. These include:

- Bill 1 – [An Act to Ensure the Supremacy of Parliament](#)
- Bill 2 – [Municipalities Enabling and Validating \(No. 4\) Amendment Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 3 – [Protected Areas of British Columbia Amendment Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 4 – [Skilled Trades BC Act](#)
- Bill 5 – [Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 6 – [Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 7 – [Coastal Ferry Amendment Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 8 – [Attorney General Statutes \(Hague Convention on Child and Family Support\) Amendment Act, 2022](#)
- Bill 9 – [Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2022](#)

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### New Features/Content on Quickscribe

Quickscribe recently introduced several new enhancements to your Quickscribe EnviroFor service. Bookmarks on the left navigation can now be moved by dragging and dropping the reference to the desired position. The viewing windows for [Hansard](#), Annotations and [Supplemental Notes](#) are no longer locked within the frame and can be moved so you can easily view the text of the sections these references are assigned to. Supplemental Notes are now included in keyword searches. Finally, plans are in the works to provide references to various official delegations/authorities as they apply to various sections of law. Various Land Use Objectives (by region) are also being added.

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**FEDERAL LEGISLATION** — For notification of federal amendments, we recommend you use our [Section Tracking](#)  tool.

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## CATEGORIES

[ENERGY & MINES](#)  
[FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT](#)  
[OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY](#)

## ENERGY AND MINES NEWS

## Power Perspectives 2022 – British Columbia Regional Overview

In 2021, several long-awaited developments occurred that will lay the groundwork for BC's energy future. With the completion of Phase 2 of its comprehensive review of BC Hydro and the release of its CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, the province has signalled its core energy priorities and outlined key measures to achieve them. Meanwhile, the submission by BC Hydro of a new integrated resources plan – its first in almost a decade – sheds new light on the province's anticipated load-resource profile and implications for market participants, including independent power producers (IPPs). Read the [full article](#) by [Alexandra Comber](#), [Maureen Gillis](#), [Genevieve Loxley](#), [Sven O. Milelli](#) and [Erin O'Callaghan](#) with McCarthy Tétrault LLP.

## Changes to Environmental Assessment Certificate for Trans Mountain

Changes to the Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, and recommendations to other agencies, have been made by George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and Bruce Ralston, Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, for the pipeline project that runs between Edmonton and Burnaby.

This provincial reconsideration process was a result of a federal Court of Appeal decision in 2018, and associated decisions by the B.C. Court of Appeal in 2019. Following the 2018 federal Court of Appeal determination that the National Energy Board (NEB) excluded project-related marine shipping from aspects of its review, the NEB undertook a reconsideration process and released a reconsideration report. The federal government then used this 2019 reconsideration report to inform its decision to approve the project again. Read the government [news release](#).

## Recent BCOGC Bulletins

The BCOGC has recently issued the following bulletins:

- [INDB 2022-04](#) – Disposal Well Dashboard Surveillance, Compliance, and Forecast Tool Now Available
- [INDB 2022-05](#) – Implementing Permittee Capability Assessment

Visit the [BCOGC website](#) to view this and other bulletins.

## ENERGY AND MINES

Act or Regulation Affected	Effective Date	Amendment Information
There were no amendments this month.		

## FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### B.C. Government Reorganizes Ministries, Creates Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship

The British Columbia government is reorganizing several of its natural resource ministries to create the new Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship.

Premier John Horgan has appointed Josie Osborne as the new minister for the department as well as for fisheries.

Horgan says the new ministry will focus on reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples along with economic and environmental stability.

The government says in a statement the natural resource sector ministries, including forests, environment, agriculture and energy, are not set up to implement the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#), which aims to advance reconciliation and share decision-making with First Nations. Read the full [Chek news article](#).

## War Disrupts Forestry Markets

A sudden increased global demand and higher prices for Canadian logs, lumber, pulp and wood pellets could result from a dramatic disruption in wood markets, due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The Western world has moved with swift and dramatic sanctions against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine. Russia is a commodities giant. In addition to being a major oil, natural gas and potash producer, it is also a major exporter of logs, lumber, pulp and pellets. Read the [BIV article](#).

## "Climate-Washing" Risks and How to Mitigate Them

More and more companies are taking positive action on climate change and are seeking to communicate their climate strategies, performance and targets to customers, investors and the broader public. But external scrutiny of corporate climate initiatives is also increasing. This puts corporate leaders in a potential double-bind: say too little on climate, and risk being accused of inaction; say too much, and risk being accused of "greenwashing" or "climate-washing."

The goal of this bulletin is to assist companies to understand and mitigate greenwashing risks related to making climate-related claims. First, we discuss the legal test to be applied to greenwashing, properly understood, based in laws relating to deceptive marketing claims. We then apply those legal concepts to three common areas where corporate communications on climate issues give rise to allegations of greenwashing: corporate "Net Zero" commitments, public market disclosures related to climate, and the purchase and sale of voluntary carbon offsets. Read the [full article](#) by [Kai Alderson](#), [Antonio Di Domenico](#) and [Ron Ezekiel](#) with Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP.

## New Indigenous-Led Planning Process Launched for TFL 44 on Vancouver Island

A new Indigenous-led approach to resource planning has launched on Vancouver Island that will be co-ordinated by C̓awak̓ ʔqin Forestry Limited Partnership, formerly named TFL 44 LP.

C̓awak̓ ʔqin Forestry will work with nations on whose traditional territories Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 44 is located to develop an Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) for forest and ecosystem management. The TFL 44 IRMP will consider the present and future needs of the nations and ecosystems while bringing together the teachings of the nations' ancestors, the wisdom of the nations' elders and the input of the nations' citizens and members. Read the [full article](#) published by *Canadian Forest Industries*.

## Environmental Appeal Board Decisions

The following Environmental Appeal Board decisions were made recently:

### [Water Sustainability Act](#)

- [Gwiiyeehl \(also known as Brian Williams\): Niisgimiinuu \(also known as Robert Campbell\): Wii Muugulsxw \(also known as Art Wilson\): Moolaxan \(also known as Norman Moore\): Gwis Gyen \(also known as Robin Alexander\): Sakxum Hiiigookw \(also known as Vernon Smith\): Wii Minosik \(also known as Larry Skulsh\): and Gitxsan Nation Crisis Management Team v. Water Manager](#) [Decision on Costs Application – Denied]

### [Water Users' Communities Act](#)

- [The Nature Trust of British Columbia v. Comptroller of Water Rights, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development](#) [Final Decision – Allowed in Part]

Visit the Environmental Appeal Board [website](#) for more information.

## FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

Act or Regulation Affected	Effective Date	Amendment Information
Code of Practice for Industrial Non-Hazardous Waste Landfills Incidental to the Wood Processing Industry (263/2010)	Feb. 18/22	by <a href="#">Reg 35/2022</a>
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting	Feb.	by <a href="#">Reg 42/2022</a>

Regulation (249/2015)	22/22	
Integrated Pest Management Regulation (604/2004)	Feb. 2/22	by <a href="#">Reg 18/2022</a>
	Feb. 7/22	by <a href="#">Reg 19/2022</a>
Professional Governance Act	Feb. 5/22	by 2018 Bill 49, c. 47, section 32 (7) (c) only (in force by <a href="#">Reg 11/2021</a> ), <a href="#">Professional Governance Act</a>
Recycling Regulation (449/2004)	Feb. 1/22	by <a href="#">Reg 162/2020</a>

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS

### Workers Compensation Act Amendments for Asbestos Safety

Proposed amendment to the [Workers Compensation Act](#) have been introduced in Bill 5, the [Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2022](#). These amendments would establish a requirement for asbestos abatement contractors to be licensed to operate in B.C., and would authorize WorkSafeBC to create a mandatory safety training program for workers and contractors who work with materials that may contain asbestos.

### OHS Centre Urges Employers to Raise Awareness of RSI

The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) has reminded employers to raise awareness and promote the prevention of repetitive strain injuries (RSI).

"RSIs can happen to a variety of workers from all types of industries. Gripping, holding, bending, twisting, clenching, and reaching – these ordinary movements that we naturally make every day are not particularly harmful in the activities of our daily lives," said CCOHS. Read the [full article](#) by Jim Wilson, published by *Canadian Occupational Safety*.

### Employer Obligations to Prevent Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace

Pink Shirt Day is an anti-bullying campaign observed on the last Wednesday of every February, and this year it falls on February 23rd. On this day, individuals are reminded to act with kindness and empathy and speak up if they see someone bullied. The goals of Pink Shirt Day align with the legal obligations placed on employers to prevent bullying and harassment in the workplace.

Bullying and harassment in the workplace exists on a spectrum. It can range from unwanted comments to verbal and physical assault. Some employers and employees are surprised to learn that WorkSafeBC requires employers in British Columbia to have a bullying and harassment policy. Read the [full article](#) by [Colin Edstrom](#) with Pushor Mitchell.

### New Public Health Orders

The Public Health Office (PHO) recently issued the following orders and guidance:

#### Orders:

- [Post-secondary Institution Housing COVID-19 Preventive Measures – February 18, 2022 \(PDF, 464KB\)](#)
- [Workplace Safety – February 16, 2022 \(PDF, 413KB\)](#)
- [Food and Liquor Serving Premises – February 16, 2022 \(PDF, 476KB\)](#)
- [Gatherings and Events – February 16, 2022 \(PDF, 522KB\)](#)

#### Guidance:

- [Guidance for Food and Liquor Serving Premises – February 17, 2022 \(PDF, 620KB\)](#)
- [Ministry of Health – Overview of Visitors in Long-Term Care and Seniors' Assisted Living – February 3, 2021 \(PDF, 675KB\)](#)

Visit the [PHO website](#) to view these and other related orders and notices.

**OHS Policies/Guidelines – Updates**

## Guidelines – OHS Regulation:

February 03, 2022

Revisions were made to the following guidelines.

- Part 4 General Conditions
  - [G4.83\(3\) Maintenance of washroom facilities](#)
- Part 5 Chemical Agents and Biological Agents
  - [G5.22 Covers](#)
  - [G5.70 Discharged air](#)

March 01, 2022

- Part 5 Chemical Agents and Biological Agents
  - [Table of Exposure Limits for Chemical and Biological Substances](#)  
The table has been updated to reflect changes to OHS Policy R5.48-1 (amended March 1, 2022). Deletions are shown as strikethrough; other changes are highlighted in green.

## Policies – OHS Regulation:

February 01, 2022

WorkSafeBC's Board of Directors ordered the deletion of the the following policy items to reflect amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. These deletions are effective February 1, 2022.

- [R16.25-1 Operation and Maintenance \(Fuel Tank Filler and Vent Outlet Locations\)](#) [deleted]
- [R16.33-1 Protective Structures \(Hydraulic Excavators\)](#) [deleted]
- [R16.34-1 Rollover Protective Structures \(Pipe Layers\)](#) [deleted]
- [R16.36-1 ROPS Certification \(Sweep Arms\)](#) [deleted]

March 01, 2022

This update includes amendments (to the Table of Exposure Limits for Excluded Substances) effective March 1, 2022. A strikethrough version of the amendments is also available.

- [R5.48-1 – Controlling Exposure – Exposure Limits](#)

Check the [WorkSafeBC website](#) to explore these and other important OHS updates.

**OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Act or Regulation Affected	Effective Date	Amendment Information
Alternative Safety Approaches Regulation (49/2011)	Feb. 9/22	by <a href="#">Reg 21/2022</a>
Workers Compensation Act	Feb. 14/22	by <a href="#">Reg 26/2022</a>

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