



In this issue:

**Food Safety, Security and Sovereignty
July 2010**

Dear Friends

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Dear Friends,

Canadians from coast to coast to coast know the importance of a Canadian food strategy to ensure Canada's food security and food sovereignty. Beginning in June 2008, and continuing for over 18 months, my colleague Alex Atamanenko, the MP for British Columbia-Southern Interior and NDP Agriculture and Agri-food Critic, held public forums in 28 Canadian communities to collect information on the state of Agriculture in Canada.

"Throughout the tour, Canadians told us that when it comes to food, we have to start thinking locally," said Atamanenko. "We need to make sure that everyone has access to safe and nutritious food and who better to produce it than our own farmers. We already trust them to put healthy food on our plates. It's time our government did the same. Without a national food strategy it will not be possible to provide food security to all Canadians. "

Attendees at the forum I co-hosted with Vancouver East MP Libby Davies expressed very significant concerns about food safety and security. They also supported the views of many other Canadians in regards to the importance of buying locally grown products.

In his report Food for Thought, Towards a Canadian Food Strategy, Alex identified three areas a comprehensive food strategy should address: ensuring all Canadians have access to healthy food, helping Canadian farmers produce adequate amounts of secure and healthy food, and establishing a sustainable agricultural sector for future generations. A copy of the full Food for Thought report can be found at <http://xfer.ndp.ca/FoodForThought/EN.pdf>.

My New Democrat colleagues and I want to ensure the voices of Canadians are heard in Ottawa and that food security and sovereignty issues continue to be one of our priorities when the house resumes in the fall.

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Upcoming deadlines for submissions:

August 2010 - July 15, 2010

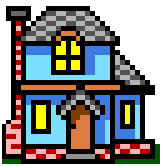
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I urge you to make your voices heard on this important issue. Write to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, The Honourable Gerry Ritz, PC, MP, and to the Prime Minister and let them know that food safety, food security and food sovereignty is important to you and you expect the government to take action. You can write to them postage free c/o House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6. Please send me a copy of any letters you write.

As always, I look forward to hearing your views on issues of the day or to assisting you on any matter within federal jurisdiction. I also welcome your submissions for Burnaby-Douglas Link and am happy to consider including them. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my Community Office at 4506 Dawson Street, telephone 604-291-8863, email Siksay.B@parl.gc.ca. For more information about my work in Ottawa and Burnaby, please visit my website at www.billsiksay.ca.

Bill



HOME
IN
BURNABY

The next deadline for the Burnaby-Douglas Link is **July 15, 2010** for distribution after **August 1, 2010**. Submissions can be faxed to my Community Office at 604-666-0727 or emailed to me at Siksay.B@parl.gc.ca.

Vancouver Foundation Youth Homelessness Initiative. Vancouver Foundation is pleased to announce the third year of its new granting initiative, the Youth Homelessness Initiative. This program provides grants to organizations that are targeting the complex issue of youth homelessness in Vancouver. In this call for proposals Vancouver Foundation will focus on approaches that increase young people's access to existing housing stock and will not consider reuquests for capital funding. Deadline for full proposals is September 15, 2010. For more information and funding guidelines visit www.vancouverfoundation.bc.ca/grants.



BC211 Services Open. While there are excellent community programs available, many citizens have difficulty finding the services they need. Service providers also face challenges trying to locate appropriate community services for their clients. BC211 and the United Way are very pleased to announce that Lower Mainland residents are now able to access 211 services. 211 helps link people rapidly and easily to the services they need, avoiding the stress and confusion of searching for programs and services. Certified Information and Referral Specialists help callers to determine their needs and options. These Specialists are trained to ascertain which programs and services the caller is eligible for, to handle crisis calls and to advocate on behalf of the caller if needed.

Calls to 211 are free; services are multilingual and available 24 hours per day, seven days a week. By simply dialing 2-1-1, callers can easily find the resources in their area that are most appropriate to their situation.

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foundation

Looking for Legal Information? Clicklaw is a website aimed at enhancing access to justice in British Columbia. The resources available through Clicklaw were designed to be used by the public and those helping the public access legal information. Clicklaw features practical information about legal rights and responsibilities and legal information and education from 24 contributor organizations.



Doing Business with the Government of Canada? Need more information on how you can promote your goods and services? The Canadian federal government is a huge market for businesses large and small. As a supplier wanting to sell to the government, you need basic information on how the purchasing is done, who the contacts are and, most importantly, how you can find opportunities. **The Contracts Canada website can help you get started.** To find out more, and to download your own copy of “Your Guide to Doing Business with the Government of Canada”, visit <http://www.contractsCanada.gc.ca/entreprises-businesses-eng.html>.

Are you dealing with a consumer issue? The Office of Consumer Affairs has several resources that might be helpful to you including the Canadian Consumer Handbook and “The Complaint Courier”, a handy interactive tool for figuring out where to direct your complaint. Visit http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ic1.nsf/eng/h_00071.html for more resources and information.



The Irving K Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society provides scholarships to students for post-secondary education in the Province of BC and abroad. Established in 2004, the Society was started as a result of a contribution made to the University of BC by philanthropist and founder of Slocan Forest Products Ltd. Irving K. Barber. The Province of BC matched Dr. Barber’s \$15. million contribution and put it into an endowment for student scholarships. For more information contact info@bcscholarship.ca or by phone 250-381-5532.

The Burnaby Service Canada Centre for Youth (SCCY) is now open. The SCCY offers a variety of services that benefit both youth and employers. **The Centre conducts workshops and events throughout the community to provide job search information and reinforce the Hire a Youth message.** Employers and youth can visit the Burnaby SCCY between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM at 4279 Canada Way. Job postings are available online at www.jobbank.gc.ca under “Student/Youth Job Search”, “British Columbia”, “Vancouver/Surrey/Fraser Valley” and then “Burnaby”. For more information, contact the Burnaby SCCY at 604-437-3761 ext 224 or email kevin.au@servicecanada.gc.ca.





22nd Annual Symphony In The Park - Sunday, July 11, 2010 7:30–9:30 pm. The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra performs its annual free outdoor concert showcasing the beauty of Burnaby's Deer Lake Park. The crowd will be pleased with the program of light classics and popular favourites. Come early, bring a blanket and a picnic basket, and settle in for a wonderful evening with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Parking in the vicinity is limited, so alternate transportation is recommended.

The BC Federation of Labour (CLC) is seeking nominations for the first recipient of the Joy Langan Social Justice Award. This award is to honour Joy Langan and the work, vision and leadership she provided to so many. The criteria for the award recipient is as follows:

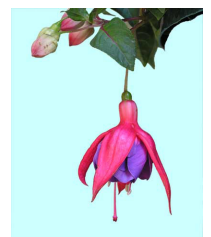
- The Award recipient must be a woman
- The Award is for a trade unionist who is also a leader in her community.
- The recipient must be an activist and leader in her union and community.
- She must have demonstrated dedication to equity and the application of a feminist lens in her union and community work.
- She must be dedicated to labour activism which may include holding an elected or having held a position with her union and/or her community; and
- Finally, the recipient must be dedicated to advancing these democratic principles through political activism or holding elected office. This does not mean the woman must be or have held elected office whether in the union or political realm, but rather, be a woman who is active and meets these criteria.

For more information or to obtain a nomination form contact the B.C. Federation of Labour Office at 604-430-1421.

Wildlife Rescue Association Summer Nature Camps. Looking for a fun way for your kids to learn about nature over the summer break? The Wildlife Rescue Association's summer day camps are being run to allow children to reconnect with the natural environment at Burnaby Lake through the eyes of a bug, bird or beaver. For more information visit www.wildliferescue.ca, email educate@wildliferescue.ca or call Education Co-ordinator, Krystal Brennan at 604-526-2747.



The B.C. Fuchsia and Begonia Society meets Monday, July 5th at 8:00 pm at St. Helen's Catholic Church gym at 3871 Pandora Street, Burnaby. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Elsie 604-299-5438.





Charlford House is celebrating 40 years of providing a supportive recovery home for women who are ready to move on from their substance addiction. The 40th Anniversary picnic is a celebration for all whose lives have been touched by Charlford House. Please join us on Saturday, July 17 from 11 AM to 4 PM at Barnet Marine Park, 8383 Barnet Highway, Burnaby. There will be games for the whole family, food, fun and fellowship. Bring a blanket, bring a chair and bring one for a friend! Please call 604-420-6601 to register.

Kensington Community Fair - Fun for the whole family! Come & enjoy a BBQ lunch while watching talented on-stage entertainment. Stroll through Kensington Park stopping at each fun, interactive display or creative activity run by numerous local organizations & clubs. There are lots of fun activities for the young & young-at-heart! The fair takes place on Saturday August 7, 10am-3pm at Kensington Park, (Kensington & Hastings). For more information, please call 604-671-1000.



26th Annual Burnaby Discovery Day Festival - Burnaby's largest community grass roots festival. Sunday, July 18, 2010, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Burnaby's Discovery Day Festival provides opportunities for fun and creativity for the whole family. The event promotes community pride by inviting and showcasing a variety of service and "helping" organizations and groups involved in arts and culture, heritage, sports, leisure, and the environment. Discovery Day addresses key municipal goals concerning leisure services and arts and culture, presenting a variety of music, live theatre, street performances, and interactive visual arts activities.

Upcoming for Seniors

Health Alert, Mondays at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby and Health Watch, Thursdays at Edmonds Community Centre, 7282 Kingsway, Burnaby.

Drop-in each week for blood pressure and weight monitoring, health, nutrition, and housing information and other services. Support from retired nurses, pharmacists and knowledgeable, trained volunteers can help you practice a healthy lifestyle.

Weekly speakers keep you abreast of the latest health trends.

Summer Closures: Edmond's Health Alerts Program will be closed for the month of July and Bonsor's will be closed the month of August, 2010.

Bonsor Centre Health Watch presentations for July 2010: July 5, "Stress and your Attitude (part 1)", July 12, "Stress and your Attitude (part2)", July 19, "How to take care of your Thyroid", and July 26, "Foot clinic – make appointment".

For more information, contact Bonsor at 604-439-1456 or Edmonds at 604-524-4261.
