

祝僑胞各位在此聖誕佳節和新
年、以及即將到來的農曆年
：身軀健康、萬事勝意！

Wishing everyone peace, health
and good fortune as we enter the
seasons of Christmas, New Year
and the Lunar New Year.



Jenny with MP Libby Davies (far left), NDP leader Carole James (right),
and a constituent at the Tax event in Chinatown, July 1st.

關 華 僑 界 議 員
JENNY KWAN
MLA | Vancouver - Mt. Pleasant

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I would like to know your views on issues that matter to the province. Please telephone or send me an email with your answer to this question:

WHAT ARE THE 3 HIGHEST PRIORITIES FOR VANCOUVER-MT. PLEASANT?

I also encourage you to let me know about any other matters of concern about issues involving the provincial government. If you would like to receive e-newsletters from me, please send an email with "newsletter" in the title.

PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE WITH PROVINCIAL SERVICES

My staff offers confidential service providing information or advice to help you with your specific concerns and issues. Please bring relevant letters and documents with you.

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Service in Mandarin and Cantonese: Wednesday afternoon

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jenny.kwan.mla@leg.bc.ca

您的聲音與意見：

我非常希望知道您對卑詩省各議題的看法。請您致電或電郵告訴我您對以下問題的看法：

溫哥華快樂山區最重要的三大問題是什麼？

我也希望您向我反應任何與省級政府有關的事宜和問題。若您希望收到我的電子報、請以主題：“Newsletter” 寄電郵給我。

若需要與省級政府相關的資訊與服務、請與我的辦公室連絡。

我辦公室的職員會提供您所需的資訊和建議、並對您個人資料保密。請記得攜帶相關信件和文件。

辦公室開放時間：週一至週四、上午九點至下午四點。

中文服務：每週三下午。

Dear friends,

It has been another exciting fall in Vancouver – Mount Pleasant. By way of an update, first, I am happy to share the news that in August I gave birth to my son, Renan, meaning kindness brings peacefulness. I am very blessed to have two healthy beautiful children. Second, I have recently been assigned as the Opposition Critic for Homelessness and Mental Health. I am glad to have an opportunity to share with you some of my views of what is happening in our community.

I am sad to say that homelessness has more than doubled since this government took office. According to David Chudnovsky, the MLA for Vancouver-Kensington who recently toured the province, there are over 10,000 homeless people across BC. It's a sad commentary that, when earlier this year, the United Nations Rapporteur on Housing visited Vancouver reported that "There is a deep homelessness problem here. I must say I was taken aback by the scale of the crisis here in the downtown east side. There seems to be a disconnect between the economic policies in Vancouver and the social policies that need to be in place."

On November 20th, the Legislative Assembly re-convened for a short session, primarily to discuss the economy. However, this time has also been useful to ask questions of the government related to the astonishing rates of homelessness and child poverty in our province. As your MLA, I believe that the government's top priorities should be issues that matter to British Columbians. Government's priorities should be focused on improving the education system for our children, investing in our families and economy with a universal child care program, fixing health care, ensuring seniors are treated fairly and those who are most vulnerable have the supports they need to succeed.

I have always believed in standing up for our community. As ever, I commit to continue to work with you to advance our community's interests.

Sincerely,

Jenny Wai Ching Kwan, MLA



親愛的朋友

又進入了令溫哥華快樂山區興奮的秋天。首先我要和各位分享喜訊：今年八月我順利產下一子---仁安---意為仁慈帶來平安。我很感恩能擁有兩個健康的孩子。另外、近日我被任命為無家可歸和心理健康反對黨評論員。很高興我有此機會和您們分享我對本社區目前情況的看法：

很遺憾、自從現今省政府執政以來、無家可歸的情形遠超過之前的一倍。根據最近巡迴走訪卑詩省的溫哥華堅勝頓區省議員 David Chudnovsky、卑詩省現有超過一萬名無家可歸者。今年稍早、到溫哥華訪問的聯合國住房調查員對溫哥華做出以下令人心寒的報告：“這裡有極嚴重的無家可歸問題。我必須承認我被溫哥華東區龐大的無家可歸問題所震驚。溫哥華的經濟政策似乎與它的社會政策脫節了。”

11月20日、卑詩省議會召集了短期議會、主要是要討論經濟問題。然而、這也是質詢省政府對當今嚴重無家可歸和兒童貧窮問題的絕佳時機。身為您的省議員、我認為省府應將首要施政方針著重在卑詩省省民關切的議題。政府首要施政方針應著眼在為兒童改善教育系統、為家庭和經濟投資一套全面性的兒童福利、改善醫療服務、確保耆英受平等待遇、並為弱勢者提供成功所需的幫助。

我一向相信為社區挺身而出。我的承諾一如往昔、我將會持續為我們社區的福祉努力！

溫哥華快樂山區省議員
關慧貞 敬上



Jenny with MP Libby Davies and new son, Renan, September 2008

Website coming soon:

我的網頁將在2009年初以全新面貌與您見面：

www.jennykwan.ca

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE?

I am concerned about what is happening in our community.

Everyday in B.C., life gets more expensive for families already stretched by rising costs and a cooling economy. Whether it's Campbell's new gas tax, higher hydro rates, high rents and housing prices, higher food costs, increased ICBC premiums, rising ferry costs or higher transit fares, the affordability crunch is forcing families to put their groceries on their credit cards. First time homebuyers are seeing their life savings threatened as pre-purchased property developments get into financial difficulty. It's harder than ever to balance the family budget.

Poverty and the threat of being homeless have moved beyond the Downtown Eastside to other communities, where working families are falling behind. In fact, BC has the worst child poverty rate in the country for the last five years and the average British Columbian's median income has remained stagnant. The number of homeless in BC is estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000. Yet, this government continues to refuse to give minimum-wage earners an increase. But somehow, Premier Campbell thought it appropriate to give a raise of up to 43% to his top deputies. And why is the government spending \$29.5 million on self-promoting advertising this year instead of putting the money into services?

With the economic meltdown spreading from the U.S.A., there is no doubt that BC will be impacted. The Opposition has a plan that targets our local economy. On 27 October, NDP Opposition Leader Carole James made a TV speech. In it, she said:

"When the Premier cancelled the fall sitting of the legislature, I went on the road, listening to British Columbians where you live and where you work. Forest workers and their families are worried about their jobs. Small business owners are worried about the price of gas and the lack of tourists. Homeowners are concerned about meeting their mortgage payments and falling house prices. Students wonder how they are going to pay for rising tuition. And seniors are worried about their retirement savings. These problems existed before the stock markets plummeted ... but now they are getting worse.

"Last week the Premier finally made a statement, but he offered very few specifics and little hope to struggling families. He's still out of touch with your needs.

"I believe we can - we must - do more to help ordinary families through these turbulent economic times. Tonight, I will offer additional steps that I believe we need to take to secure our economy, and to help the middle class. These steps are focussed on the fundamentals:

- middle class and small business tax relief;
- skills training and education;
- community and green infrastructure;
- a re-vitalized forest industry; and
- getting rid of government waste so we protect the things that matter most to British Columbians: quality health care, education, environmental protection - the fundamental services that far too often end up on the chopping block.

"Many of these proposals can be acted on today. Others build for the long-term. They all share one thing in common - supporting you in difficult economic times. And they all can be taken while maintaining fiscal responsibility and balanced budgets."

If you would like a copy of the full speech, please contact my office. A video of Carole's statement is available at the Opposition Caucus website: <http://www.bcndpcaucus.ca>

- 1 Jenny at the start of the Walk 4 Justice to draw attention to the deaths of Aboriginal women across BC, June 21st.
- 2 Jenny and childcare critic Claire Trevena with mothers from the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, September 12th.
- 3 Jenny with staff from the Mount Pleasant Community Centre at "Celebrate Mount Pleasant," June 7th.
- 4 Jenny with Lt. Cdr. King Wan, Her Honour Mrs. Gwendolyn Point, MP Libby Davies, Lt. Gov. Steven Point, Col. Howe Lee, MP Don Davies at the Remembrance Day Ceremonies in Chinatown, November 11th (photo credit: Todd Wong).
- 5 Jenny and colleagues from the Opposition Caucus with their personal donations to the Chinese Earthquake relief funds.

GOVERNMENT MAKES VOTING MORE DIFFICULT, ESPECIALLY FOR THE HOMELESS

Last May, the Campbell government pushed through changes to the law about voter identification and about voters who are homeless. The government denied the Opposition's request to delay the legislation for fuller debate, so my colleagues and I voted against it.

Bill 42 has made voting much more difficult, especially for voters who have no government-issued identification or have no fixed address.

In order to vote you must provide:

- (a) one document, issued by the Government of British Columbia or Canada, that contains your name and photograph, and place of residence, or
- (b) one document, issued by the Government of Canada, that certifies that you are registered as an Indian under the Indian Act (Canada), or
- (c) at least 2 documents, both of which contain your name and at least one of which contains your place of residence.

If you do not have an address: You must come with a registered voter from your area who can vouch for you. This person can only vouch for one person at an election.

There will be a Provincial General Election next May. If you plan to vote, make sure that you have registered with Elections BC because registering on voting day has become more complicated.

If you received a voting card for the recent Federal or City elections, you are already registered but will need to let Elections BC know if you change your address.

You can register online at <https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/ovr/welcome.aspx>, by telephone at 1-800-661-8683 or by mailing the application form to Elections BC, PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9J6. My office can give you an application form.

我們的生活品質怎麼了？

我很關心自己社區內發生的事。

在卑詩省、許多被物價上漲和經濟不景氣影響的家庭面對的是越來越貴的生活。不論是金寶爾政府的新稅收、高漲的水電費、高漲的租金和房價、上漲的食物、調漲的ICBC保費、或上漲的渡輪費和大眾運輸工具、為了負擔生計、許多家庭被迫以信用卡支付日常生活用品。有史以來、因為預售屋建商的財物危機讓首次購屋者的畢生積蓄不保。平衡家庭收支從未像現在這樣艱難！



貧窮和無家可歸已不再是溫哥華東區獨有的現象。這些問題已延伸到其他社區；這些社區中不乏入不敷出的家庭。事實上、現在的卑詩省是加拿大過去五年以來兒童貧窮率最高的一省。卑詩省中產階級薪資也已多年不曾調漲。估計卑詩省無家可歸人口約在一萬到一萬五之間。而現在的省政府卻仍不願調高基本薪資。在這樣的情況下、金寶爾省長卻為自己的副手們調薪43%！為何政府寧願花2億9千500萬來為自己打廣告、卻不將這比錢用來服務省民？！

美國經濟下滑、卑詩省無疑遭受影響。反對黨有一套針對本地社區的計畫。10月27日、新民主黨卑詩省黨領詹嘉璐在電視發表演說、其中指出：

"在金寶爾省長取消秋季議會的時間裡、我走訪了卑詩省各地、聆聽在此居住和工作的人民。林木業工人和他們的家人擔心工作、小型企業者擔心沒有遊客及上漲的油價、有屋者擔心房貸與下跌的房價、學生不知如何負擔上漲的學費、耆英擔心退休金著落...這些問題早在股市慘跌前就存在、現在只是更加嚴重。"

"上週省長終於做出聲明、但他的答案籠統、無法給生活困難的家庭太多希望。省長仍不清楚你們的需要。"

"我相信新民主黨能夠、也必須在此經濟風暴中幫助一般家庭渡過難關。為了穩固經濟並協助中產階級、今晚我提出以下著重在基礎面的幾個步驟：

- 中產階級和小型企業減稅
- 教育和技術培育
- 發展社區公共基礎建設和環保公共基礎建設
- 重新為林木業注入生機
- 杜絕政府的浪費、讓卑詩省省民能保護我們所珍惜的：高品質的醫療服務、教育、環保...這些總在最後被政府犧牲掉的基本服務。

"這些方案中許多是今天就可以執行的。其餘的可做長遠規畫。這些方案有一個共同特點--支持您渡過經濟危困難。這些方案與履行財政責任和平衡預算並不互相矛盾。"

若需要完整演講稿、請與我辦公室連絡。演說片段可在反對黨網站上觀賞：<http://www.bcndpcaucus.ca>

- 1 6月21日關慧貞議員在 Walk 4 Justice 活動開始時呼籲卑詩省關注本省原住民受害婦女。
- 2 關慧貞議員和兒童福利評論員 Claire Trevena與Mount Pleasant Neighborhood House 的母親們於9月12日合影。
- 3 關慧貞議員與快樂山區社區中心職員6月7日在 "慶祝快樂山區" 活動合影。
- 4 關慧貞議員、海軍少校 King Wan、Gwendolyn Point、國會議員戴慧恩、海軍少校 Steven Point、Howe Lee、國會議員戴偉思 11月11日在中國城的國殤紀念日儀式。(照片由 Todd Wong提供)
- 5 關慧貞省議員與同僚捐獻個人支票為中國四川省大地震賑災。

省政府將投票變得複雜、尤其對無家可歸的人而言

去年五月、金寶爾政府對投票者身份證件和無家可歸投票者的法案進行改變。反對黨當時要求延遲改變法案、以便對新法進行完整辯論、但省政府卻拒絕了。因此、反對黨否決了這項新法案。

Bill 42 使投票變得困難、尤其是對無家可歸的人而言、因為他們沒有政府發給的身份證明或固定地址。

若您想要投票、您必須：

1. 持有一份由卑詩省政府或加拿大政府所發的證件、其上必須有您的名字、照片和地址。或者
2. 持有一份由加拿大政府所發的文件、證明您是加拿大印地安法 (Indian Act) 註冊的原住民。或者
3. 持有至少兩份文件、兩份都必須有您的名字、其中至少一份文件要有您的住址。

如果您沒有固定住址：您必須帶一位住在您的選區、並已經註冊登記為投票者的朋友為您擔保。而這位朋友在同一次選舉中只能為一個人擔保。

明年五月將會進行省選。若您想要投下您神聖的一票、請確認您已經向Election BC註冊。因為若要在當天註冊情況和手續會較為複雜。

若您在之前聯邦大選和市選時已收到投票通知、代表您已經在 Election BC註冊登記了。若您的地址有變更、請與Election BC聯繫。

您也可已在線上註冊登記：<https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/ovr/welcome.aspx>，或致電：1-800-661-8683，或將申請表寄到 Elections BC, PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9J6。歡迎向我辦公室索取申請表格。