



Community News

Adrian Dix, MLA Working For You

March 2007

Successful Bottle Drive-Renfrew School

Congratulations to the students and families at Renfrew Elementary School for a successful bottle drive to replace a much needed keyboard for their music teacher and music program. Ms. Norma Westrom has been a dedicated music teacher at Renfrew Elementary for 18 years. She has been named the top Musical Educator in BC for 2006-2007. Despite having limited resources and a broken keyboard, she continues to bring the joy of music to the school with the best of her ability. Some of her achievements are teaching 23 divisions of music classes that perform for special events and Friday assemblies; two choirs; directing and producing the school's annual opera; an ukelele festival; Christmas concerts; outings to senior centres in Renfrew Collingwood; and with all that, she still finds time to assist students with their every need and question of interest in the musical world.

Because of the love and admiration for Ms. Westrom and her music program, the students and families of Renfrew Elementary held a successful bottle drive. The school collected a total amount of 30,000 bottles raising \$1500. Encorp Recycling matched that amount bringing the total fundraised to \$3000. This is such an amazing act of kindness and care for the school and for the environment. Congratulations again to Renfrew Elementary School and Ms. Westrom for a job well done!

International Women's Day

March 8, 2007 will mark the 30th anniversary of International Women's Day, established in 1977 by the United Nations. This is a day of reminder to Canadians to continue to reflect on the years of contributions and achievements of women all over the world. I encourage you to take a minute of reflection to honor those women who have been monumental in the every day fight for women's basic needs in areas such as health, education, and most recently, child care.

BC Budget 2007

Last month, the Liberal government released their budget for 2007. Some of the highlights of the budget focus on providing supportive housing, increases in the welfare rates and tax cuts. The opposition has been advocating for these badly needed resources, especially during the winter months as we saw the homeless rate double since 2001 and an increase in child poverty. This budget is a drop in the bucket, as much more is needed to be invested in British Columbia for the long term.

B.C.'s health care is in crisis. Hospitals are pushed to the limit, ERs are gridlocked, and private care has flourished, prompting the Premier's own hand-picked appointees to resign in protest. The costs of post-secondary education are sky-rocketing and child care centres and schools around the province are shutting down. In the next few months, I will be in the House debating this budget. If you have any questions you would like to raise in response to this budget, please call my office at 604.660.0314 or email me at: Adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca.

Stop by my Community Office:

Address:

5022 Joyce Street
Vancouver, BC V5R 4G6

Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Phone: 604-660-0314

Fax: 604-660-1131

Email: Adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca

Website: www.adriandix.ca

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