



Building Owners and Managers
Association of British Columbia

BOMA BC eNews

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May 11, 2021

ASSOCIATION NEWS

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Council confirms appointment of Theresa O'Donnell as new director of planning

Source: City of Vancouver

City council has appointed Theresa O'Donnell as Vancouver's new director of planning and general manager of planning, urban design and sustainability, effective immediately. O'Donnell has an extensive background with more than 30 years in policy development, program administration, and economic development, including as director of planning and development for the cities of Las Vegas, Nevada and Arlington, Texas.



She also served as director of sustainable development and construction, interim assistant city manager, and chief resilience officer for the City of Dallas, and has managed multimillion dollar operating and capital budgets. O'Donnell joined the City of Vancouver in March 2019 as deputy director of planning.



Saanich Commercial and Rental Apartment Building Survey

Do you own or manage a commercial or rental apartment building in Saanich? Help the District of Saanich develop energy efficiency and GHG reduction incentives and programs that would be most beneficial to you. By completing their survey, you will be entered to win one of four \$250 gift cards to the Home Depot. The survey closes May 23: www.saanich.ca/buildingsurvey.



Give feedback on a new, direct, east-west route along 84 Avenue

The City of Surrey plans to complete road connections on 84 Avenue from 120 Street to Fraser Highway to increase road safety, connectivity and travel options. Construction will be done in phases over the next five years. Public engagement for Phase 1: King George Boulevard to 140 Street has started. After reading the [engagement boards](#), take the [online survey](#) for a chance to win a \$250 Guildford Town Centre gift card.

Survey closes May 19.



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EVENTS & EDUCATION

Tips to make the most of the Awards Gala on May 20



- Log in at 3 p.m. so you have half an hour to network and get your photo snapped in the selfie booth.
- Direct message colleagues and clients to find out which of the five networking rooms they're in.
- Have paper or your phone handy for taking notes when Gregg Brown talks about leadership and the changing workplace.
- Use the live chat feature during the awards presentation to send congratulatory messages.



Quality. Consistency. Every Floor.



Suite Turns- Looking to renovate or upgrade your suites? At Canwest, we know that quality and consistency are key in making any upgrade a success. From flooring to tile, Canwest can take any space and make it look brand new. With our range of available products as well as our knowledgeable and professional installation teams, we work quickly and effectively to ensure your reno goes smoothly.

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GOOD TO KNOW

FortisBC updates their Custom Efficiency program



If you're considering an energy efficiency project for your building, now is the time!

FortisBC has recently updated their Custom Efficiency program to include higher incentives for commercial gas projects, lower cost-effectiveness thresholds, better support for hybrid projects and easier administration!

For more information visit www.fortisbc.com/rebates/business/custom-efficiency-program.



EV Charger Rebate Program for workplaces



Workplaces can get a rebate of up to \$2,000 per charger to purchase and install eligible Level 2 networked EV chargers for employee use, to a maximum of \$14,000.

[Read More...](#)



NRCAN HVAC Self Assessment Tool and Guide

NRCAN's free [Self Assessment Tool and Guide](#) provides feedback on the impact of your HVAC strategies during and after pandemics. It highlights key areas and best practices for efficient operation during these times and help your operations team respond with greater confidence.



Metro Vancouver annual watering restrictions

Stage 1 watering restrictions come into effect on May 1, 2021 as detailed in Metro Vancouver's Drinking Water Conservation Plan.

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EVENT CALENDAR

20

May 2021

BOMA Awards of Excellence, presented by Grimefighters

Network virtually, listen to renowned speaker Gregg Brown, and find out who won an Award of Excellence!

[Register...](#)

25

May 2021

Answering your legal questions about requiring vaccinations

A legal professional will address your pressing questions about whether tenants, contractors and employees should be vaccinated before returning to the office.

[Read More...](#)

10

Jun 2021

How to manage energy in under-occupied buildings

Details to come.

19

Aug 2021

BOMA Golf Classic

Information to follow.

NATIONAL NEWS

New BOMA BEST questions

Due to COVID-19, buildings have experienced reduced occupant density and hours of operation as a result of public health and workplace safety measures. These changes have had a significant impact on energy and water consumption trends. Starting on June 15, 2021, new questions will be added to the office building questionnaire.



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Smart Buildings Pilot Project

BOMA Canada announced the launch of the BOMA BEST Smart Buildings Certification Program's Pilot Project. This certification sets a global standard for how smart buildings are measured, while also providing users with a roadmap to drive further asset enhancement and investment.

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AROUND THE INDUSTRY

Pandemic propels healthy building momentum

Source: Canadian Property Management/REMI Network

Healthy buildings are growing in demand. In a recent survey, commercial real estate asset managers shared an increased desire to support physical, social and emotional well-being in the built environment.

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Land sales soar as real estate preps for B.C. recovery

Source: Western Investor

In the Lower Mainland, land values increased 28 per cent to more than \$4 billion in 2020, leading all commercial real estate sectors.

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A year like no other for campus cleaning

Source: Facility Cleaning & Maintenance/REMI Network

Large post-secondary campuses present many cleaning and maintenance challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to even more difficulties.

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Vancouver homeowners getting larger tax burden after divisive council vote

Source: *Vancouver Sun*

City council has voted to shift \$3.6 million in property taxes from businesses to homeowners to help small business owners.

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Property managers can ease lease renewals

Source: *Western Investor*

“A property manager can also serve as a buffer between the landlord and the tenant, and remove any emotion that can arise as a result of the negotiation,” writes Rod Fram, president of TransPacific Realty Advisors.

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Amazon to open five new distribution hubs in Metro Vancouver, add 2,000 jobs

Source: *Daily Hive/Urbanized*

Amazon announced that it is growing in Metro Vancouver, with plans to open five new distribution hubs in the region. The expansion includes a 450,000-square-foot advanced robotics fulfillment centre in the Port of Vancouver.

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Cogeneration systems to lose tax enticement

Source: *Canadian Property Management/REMI Network*

“While the newly released 2021 federal budget commits \$142 million over five years to immediately expand the list of capital investments that qualify for the special tax measure, it also names various combined heat and power (CHP) applications that will be delisted after 2023.”

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'Don't think it's fair': Speculation tax exemption created for some B.C. commercial property tenants

Source: *CTV News Vancouver*

The provincial government has introduced a tax exemption for dozens of businesses in B.C. that were charged a speculation vacancy tax on air space above leased spaces.

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