

BC LIBERALS
IN THE LEGISLATURE



Laurie Throness named Opposition Co-Critic for Transportation

CHILLIWACK (September 10, 2020) – BC Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson has named Chilliwack-Kent MLA Laurie Throness as the new Official Opposition Co-Critic for Transportation and Infrastructure as the BC Liberals made changes to critic roles today to focus on holding John Horgan and his government to account in key areas as the NDP government struggles to respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

“I’m proud to be named as the Official Opposition Co-Critic for Transportation and Infrastructure along with my colleague MLA Mike Bernier and work together to push John Horgan and the NDP to responsibly invest in community transportation and infrastructure,” said Throness. “Our team will continue to push the government to make decisions that help improve people’s lives as they continue to deal with the pandemic.”

The critic role changes announced today build on the 13 letters and over 60 policy suggestions introduced by the BC Liberals over the last several months to help B.C. combat the effects of COVID-19 on people and the economy, and get our province back on track.

“The investments that John Horgan is making in major infrastructure projects have seen costs skyrocket as a result of their Community Benefits Agreements (CBA) which restrict work to 19 of the NDP’s hand-picked unions, all significant past donors

to the party,” added Throness. “During a pandemic that has seen so many British Columbians put out of work, it's disgraceful to see John Horgan and the NDP continue to prevent countless British Columbians from getting work in public projects while also spending significantly more tax dollars on these projects during an economic slowdown. People deserve better and we're going to hold the NDP government accountable.”

An analysis by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) shows that CBAs could add as much as \$4.8 billion more to the cost of public infrastructure projects, which equates to nearly \$4,000 for every family in the province. CBAs result in fewer competing bids and higher project costs while freezing out nearly 80 per cent of B.C.'s construction sector.