



## 2009 Legislative Session: 1st Session, 39th Parliament

### Government Announcements

- *HST transition rules released* - The B.C. Government released proposed general transitional rules to help guide businesses and consumers in a smooth changeover to the Harmonized Sales Tax. [Read more](#)
- *Successful SkillsPlus program expanded* - An additional \$2 million was committed to skills training for mid-sized businesses (50 to 500 employees) under the *SkillsPlus program*. The expansion of SkillsPlus to include mid-sized businesses is intended to increase the number of people accessing essential skills and in turn increase economic productivity. [Read more](#)
- *Two reports confirm strength of small business sector* - Two recent reports, the [Small Business Profile 2009](#) and the [Small Business Roundtable 4th Annual Report to Government](#), reinforce the conclusion that B.C.'s small business sector is leading the economy.
- *October B.C. Oil and Gas Rights sale peaks for 2009* - B.C.'s economy received a shot in the arm with the October 2009 land rights sale, resulting in \$370 million in bonus bids, the sixth-largest sale on record. This brings the calendar year to date total to \$700.6 million. [Read more](#)
- *New act restricts sale and possession of body armour* - Gang members and organized criminals will no longer be able to hide behind body armour, Solicitor General Kash Heed announced in introducing Canada's first act that sets up a licensing and criminal record check regime for the sale and purchase of body armour. [Read more](#)

### Question Period Topics

- Government purchase of Olympic Games tickets and hospitality suites
- Provision of traffic fine revenues to local government
- Government action on gambling and organized crime
- Funding for carbon reduction initiatives in school districts, residential care and mental health services
- Ferry fares
- Manufacturing of Olympic Games flags

### Status of Bills

#### BILLS INTRODUCED (first reading)

##### Government Bills

- [Bill 14 - Housing and Social Development Statutes Amendment Act, 2009](#)
- [Bill 15 - Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, 2009](#)
- [Bill 16 - Body Armour Control Act](#)
- [Bill 17 - Health Statutes \(Residents' Bill of Rights\) Amendment Act, 2009](#)

##### Private Bills

- [Bill Pr401 - Verigin Memorial Park Amendment Act, 2009](#)

## BILLS PASSED (third reading)

### Government Bills

- [Bill 9 - Wood First Act](#)
- [Bill 10 – Protected Areas of British Columbia Amendment Act, 2009](#)
- [Bill 11 – Labour Mobility Act](#)
- [Bill 12 - Ombudsman Amendment Act, 2009](#)
- [Bill 13 - Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2009](#)

## Reports Tabled

- [Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 2008 Electoral Boundary Redistribution](#)
- [Office of the Ombudsman, Annual Report 2008/2009](#)