

An inspiring legacy of civic generosity

North Shore Rescue is a group of intrepid, dedicated and highly trained individuals who put their lives on the line for folks in trouble in our mountain wilderness. NS Rescue is looking forward to the construction of a new rescue centre at the top of Capilano Road. The launch of this project took place at the 25th anniversary of a valued North Shore firm, Horizon Engineering. **Partners Karen Savage and Karim Karimzadegan presented NS Rescue with a cheque for \$5000 at the event, signalling that this project was the company's 5000th project.**



NS Rescue had been in the news earlier this year when Karl Winter passed away at the age of 82. This remarkable man leaves a legacy of civic generosity for which the North Shore will be forever grateful.

A co-founder of North Shore Rescue 57 years ago, Karl was a mountain rescue legend whose life provides a beacon of inspiration at a time when we are all in need of some light and a reminder of what is possible when good people do good things.

Less than a week after his passing, North Shore Rescue reported a record-setting 226 callouts in 2021 – testimony to the high need for this service on the North Shore and beyond, to the skill and dedication of its 50-plus volunteer rescue professionals, and to the evolution of Canada's most famous – and busiest – volunteer search and rescue team.

It's a gift the likes of which Karl could never have imagined that day in 1965, when he and a friend answered a newspaper ad for civil defense volunteers. Karl's specialty was mountaineering which he'd learned growing up in Germany. Despite arriving in Canada with no English, he was soon teaching mountaineering and was a member of the Mountain Rescue Group – a predecessor to North Shore Rescue. Within a few short years, the Cold War era requirement for a civil defense corps was outstripped by the need for a search and rescue team as the North Shore's population grew, and along with it, the popularity of the local mountains and trails.

BUSHWACKERS AND INNOVATORS

Karl was North Shore Rescue's first Team Leader and along with brothers Dave and Gerry Brewer, one of its founders. In a recent tribute, Gerry Brewer credited Karl with transforming a group of 'bushwackers' – as Karl jokingly called them – into the nucleus of a mountain rescue group.

They responded to 4 to 6 callouts a year in those early days. Using their own rudimentary equipment, long before GPS and cellphones, they developed many search and rescue protocols that are still the training standard today. Innovation was the name of the game. They became pioneers in things like treating hypothermia in the field and fixed-line helicopter extractions. When they were looking to increase their wilderness search skills, they enlisted the help of the U.S. Border Patrol which had expertise in human tracking. Before long, Karl and his dedicated group of North Shore bushwackers were influencing search and rescue practices throughout North America.

Over the years, as they built the community support that sustains North Shore Rescue, they provided concentric ripples of opportunity for others on the North Shore to practice civic generosity: dozens of corporate sponsors, fundraisers like Rotary's Ride for Rescue, and the West Van teenager who raised thousands making and selling North Shore Rescue-branded toques and socks.

EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE

The team also became a magnet for other extraordinary people able to meet their exacting standards and willing to sacrifice countless volunteer hours training and on rescues at all times of day in all kinds of weather. People like Tim Jones, who died unexpectedly in 2014 and Dr. Ian Taylor, the team's first physician who passed away this past year.

As Karl and other 'originals' pass the baton forward, the next generation of North Shore Rescue volunteer professionals includes members of their own families – Karl's son Greg, Tim Jones' son Curtis and Allan Danks' son Mike – North Shore Rescue's current Team Leader.

“All of us hope that at the end of the day, our lives will have made a difference.”

As we reflect on the possibilities and opportunities ahead when this pandemic is finally behind us, one of the legacies of Karl Winter, and those like him, is that each of us has the potential to practice civic generosity and make our communities better for our having been here. **Thanks to North Shore Rescue, and to Horizon Engineering for their generous support.**

One person's path to opportunity

Bukhari Ali Salat, a young man living with visual impairment, meets challenges head on. He was very proud to speak the Oath and be declared a Canadian in a virtual ceremony at my office earlier this year. Several people from the Regional Ecumenical Sponsorship Team (REST), a non-profit here in North Vancouver that welcomed Bukhari to our community, joined us to celebrate this milestone.

COURAGE AND GRIT

Born in Somalia the year civil war tore his country apart, his life began with the uncertainty of no functioning government, no health care, and not a lot of prospects for young people like himself. He suffered a head injury that resulted in him gradually losing his sight as a young adult. With great courage and grit, he went to Uganda and then to Kenya to seek medical assistance, hitching rides on trucks, cooking for the drivers to pay his way.

After years as a refugee in Nairobi, seeking medical advice to recover his eyesight, he reached the conclusion that he needed specialized care. He applied to come to Canada as a refugee and was selected for the Blended Visa Office Referred program in 2015.



Meanwhile, REST was looking for individuals and families to sponsor here in North Vancouver. Bukhari was their first candidate. REST has now assisted more than 30 people to settle in the lower mainland – folks who work, study, and contribute to their communities in many ways.

Bukhari arrived in Canada in 2016 as a blind man of colour with little knowledge of English, although fluent in Somali, Arabic and spoken Swahili. He became good friends with the first Syrian family also sponsored by REST and has remained close to his original sponsors and advocates as he has gained independence.

LOTS TO CONTRIBUTE

Many challenging realities in other countries result in people seeking a better, safer life in Canada: this past year being a case in point. I congratulate Bukhari as he joins our diverse Canadian family – we continue to be a country where everyone can strive to live their best life.

In The Community



Ocean Ambassadors' Shipyards Zero Waste initiative kicks off



Visiting Brockton Gr 9 Science Class



Case Manager Fiona Haftani with our Haft Sin table



Our constituency office is open. Please stay COVID-safe and wear a mask in indoor public spaces.

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SPRING 2022

North Vancouver Constituent Update

WOULD YOU LIKE A CANADIAN FLAG OR PIN? STOP BY OUR OFFICE, WE HAVE PLENTY.



Invasion accelerating clean energy transition

In February, Russia's President launched an unprovoked, illegal attack against the people of Ukraine and against the rules-based international order. In a matter of hours, it profoundly changed our world – and brought issues of energy security very much to the forefront.

It also may well prove to be an inflection point in a parallel crisis that is altering our world – climate change.

Canada's European friends and allies are experiencing an energy security crisis, a crisis that could impact industry, mobility, and even the heating of homes as time goes by. This crisis must be addressed. Issues of energy security have gained heightened prominence and strategic consideration as Putin's invasion has highlighted Europe's vulnerability to its reliance on Russian oil and gas. In response to Russia's brutal aggression, Europe is doubling down on energy independence from Russia and on accelerating the transition to a low carbon future.

In my discussions with ministers from European countries, including at the International Energy Agency Ministerial meeting in early spring, European leaders have been clear. They want to very quickly reduce reliance on Russian oil and gas by looking to source supplies from friendly, stable countries. **Increased Canadian production could replace Russian fuels, so it should not lead to an overall global increase in greenhouse gas emissions.** This modest increase in our production must be done in a manner that is consistent with Canada's climate commitments. Canada clearly cannot and will not turn a blind eye to Europe's plight.

However, our assistance goes beyond simply providing more fossil fuels in the near term, because Europe's leaders do not just want to reduce their reliance on Russian oil and gas – they want to reduce their reliance on these fossil fuels altogether.

As the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, stated, **“It is our switch to renewables and hydrogen that will make us truly independent. We have to accelerate the green transition.”**



Moving with a speed few would have thought possible prior to the invasion, the European Union has laid out a strategy that could cut reliance on Russian natural gas by two-thirds within a year. The EU roadmap essentially proposes doubling down on greener, non-emitting sources of power and enhancing energy efficiency in the medium to longer term, while finding alternative, more reliable suppliers of oil and gas in the near term.

CON'T

HOW CANADA CAN HELP

Within the framework of our climate commitments, Canada is looking to do what we can to help our European friends with supply in the short-term. However, we are also very much engaged with Europe on how we may assist them in additional, more sustainable ways in the longer term.

Canada is uniquely positioned to contribute to building a clean energy European economy. We are already leaders in many clean and non-emitting technologies, and we possess significant raw resources that will be critical in the green transition.



Clean hydrogen is one clean fuel/energy carrier that Europe (and Canada) is particularly interested in – as Europe looks to eventually transition away from the use of natural gas. Canada is already one of the top hydrogen producers in the world, and we are building on our existing strengths.

Taking **real action** for a **healthy environment** and a **strong economy**.

Pivoting from pandemic to growth

In this country's 150+ years, Canadians have never experienced a time like these past 25 months. And we're not yet free from the shadow of uncertainty and complexity cast by the challenges before us. For me, the release of Budget 2022 in April was a chance to pause, reflect, and take stock of how we're doing amid all this. I was heartened by what I saw.

Over the course of the pandemic, the federal government deployed one of the most effective response plans in the world. It was an unprecedented level of emergency support to protect Canadian families and businesses. My colleague, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, called it "an audacious plan" in its scope, ambition and resolve. And it worked. The Canadian economy's recovery has been swift and strong.

Our economy has recovered **112%** of jobs lost during the first months of the pandemic.

ACCELERATION NEEDED

The need to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future was further underlined by the release on February 28th of the most comprehensive catalogue yet of the consequences of global heating.

A much-anticipated report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found that about half of the world's population is now acutely vulnerable to disasters stemming from the burning of fossil fuels. The destabilization caused by the invasion of Ukraine earlier this year has raised awareness of the vulnerability of nations' continued dependence on finite, climate-damaging fossil fuel consumption.

Both the IPCC report and the invasion of Ukraine have crystallized the human, economic and geopolitical calamity of the combustion of fossil fuels and highlighted the need for rapid transition to a clean economy. In the face of the horror of Ukraine, there are indications world leaders in Europe and North America are resolute in their commitment to partner to address energy security and climate change crises. Canada will be at the forefront of these discussions.

REBOUNDED ECONOMY

As Budget 2022 documents, after waves of COVID and multiple lockdowns, our economy has recovered 112 per cent of the jobs lost during those harrowing first months of the pandemic – compared to 90 per cent in the United States. Our unemployment rate is down to 5.5 per cent—close to the 5.4 per cent low in 2019 that was Canada's best in five decades. Our real GDP is more than a full percentage point above where it was before the pandemic.

The federal government's emergency COVID response saved lives and kept our economy afloat. But these were emergency measures. The time for extraordinary COVID support is over. **Budget 2022 firmly pivots the government's focus from broad-based emergency COVID expenditures towards targeted investments that will expand our economic capacity and productivity to drive long-term growth that is critical to our nation's future.**



Appreciating Philippine Canadian healthcare workers

In June, Filipino Canadians will celebrate their day of Independence. I can't stress how much Canadians of Philippine descent have contributed to this country's strengths – particularly in light of the pandemic.

Many of our caregivers – every day and every night for more than two long years of this health crisis – are the nurturing figures of nurses, doctors, care aids, childcare providers, and others in these caring professions who once called the Philippines home.

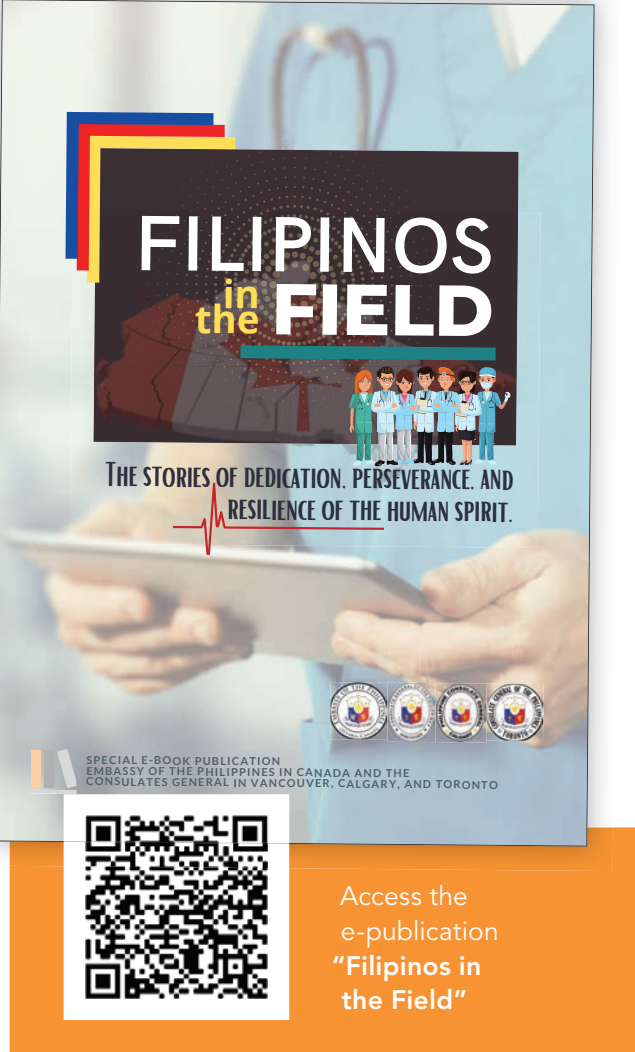
I was reminded of this recently when the Embassy and Consulates General of the Philippines in Canada presented "Filipinos in the Field," a project showcasing the stories of Filipino-Canadians in the healthcare sector.

As was poignantly signaled by Ambassador Rodolfo Robles, Philippines' ambassador to Canada, in February this year, "The commitment

of healthcare workers to their vocations was fulfilled often at great risk to themselves and their families. Their work is critical before, during and beyond this pandemic."

My staff has heard this over and over, as so many health care providers reached out to my office for assistance with COVID supports, with family reunification challenges, with applications to transition from foreign workers to Permanent Residency and other concerns that required federal government help or intervention during the pandemic.

I look forward to celebrating the vitality of Filipino culture in person again this year at the Philippine Days celebration in North Vancouver. And I congratulate and thank all those of Philippine heritage who have dedicated their lives to caring professions that support our entire community.



DRIVING INVESTMENT AND GROWTH

Economic growth has slowed in Canada over the past decades – threatening Canadians' standard of living and our ability to afford cherished social programs. A thriving private sector is particularly important given the opportunities for Canada as the world moves toward a lower carbon future.

Budget 2022 contains elements focused on investment and growth, including in critical minerals and associated value chains, the creation of a new innovation agency modelled on the successful efforts of countries like Finland and Israel, a graduated corporate tax rate for small and medium sized businesses, and a \$15B Growth Fund to catalyze private sector investments in growth areas including hydrogen, biofuels, renewables, and critical minerals.

There is significant focus on increasing housing supply – a key issue here in North Vancouver. Budget 2022 represents the most ambitious plan that Canada has ever had to solve this fundamental challenge. Over the next ten years, we'll double the number of new homes built in Canada; invest in rental housing that so many count on; make it easier for young people to get those first keys of their own; and prevent foreign investors from parking their money in Canada by buying up homes.

One aspect of the budget that has received less media attention, but I know is on the minds of many in North Vancouver, is deficit reduction. The federal government remains committed to unwinding COVID-19-related deficits and implementing a fiscal plan that ensures federal debt remains on a downward track as a

share of the economy, bringing it back to pre-pandemic levels and ensuring a budget that is very close to balanced within five years.

Our overall fiscal strategy is to focus on building a stronger, more resilient economy that will enable long-term fiscal sustainability. Perspective is helpful here. Canada continues to have the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7, and the second lowest deficit as a per cent of GDP among these same countries.

Inflation, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, worker shortages, snarled supply chains – the list of serious challenges ahead remains grim. **Yet my pause to reflect on Budget 2022 suggests that Canada is well positioned to meet those challenges.**

Real adventure in pursuit of truth and science

I was surprised by a call from North Vancouver extreme adventurer Kevin Vallely early in the new year. He reached out to my office for help with obstacles to the departure of his team awaiting permission to head to Nunavut.



Kevin is known as an explorer in a world where we think there is no exploring left. His most recent expedition was to attempt a first winter crossing of Ellesmere Island – Canada's most northerly territory. Through Canadian Geographic Education and the non-profit impossible2possible, the plan was to connect 25,000 classrooms to the Canadian Arctic to show how important this land is for its people.

They hoped to better understand this unique arctic environment at the harshest time of year, collecting data for Environment Canada. Additionally, the focus was on changes to the high arctic affecting the residents of Ellesmere Island – predominantly Inuit – as well as their interactions with the flora and fauna of the region.

Kevin and his team of two secured the blessing of the tiny Inuit community of Grise Fiord, engaged a local entrepreneur to provide expedition support, and sourced and purchased resources locally. They set out over the bitterly cold landscape at the beginning of March. It did not go quite as they planned.

IT WAS BRUTAL

As Kevin explained to me in his own words: The journey proved a little crazy. It never got above -30C, but it sure got a lot colder. I frost-nipped my lungs on day 1. Really scary. I did get over it after a few days, but I thought at first I had really damaged myself.

It was brutal pulling heavy sleds in the extreme cold... like hauling on sandpaper. We then realized that it was impossible. Deep snow, breakable crust and rock on Ellesmere meant we would average 5-10km/day max. Our plan had been for 20km/day. We only had 50 days of food and fuel – the math added up to 100-120 days of travel, minimum. It wasn't going to work.

We decided to hand stuff over to our camera team on snow machines supporting us so we could speed up. We would do this until they had to turn back near the halfway point. It meant we would have to forgo our self-contained status, but it was either this or run out of everything before the end. Being supported by our camera team allowed us to move faster but it sacrificed moving independently. We became dependent on our support team moving forward so we could move forward. This proved our undoing.

The machines broke down continuously in the cold. By day 10, we realized it was getting dangerous. They had a breakdown that morning; we skied ahead agreeing to meet at a critical junction. We got to our rendezvous spot, and they hadn't arrived. We were without any survival gear and it was -40C. We were in active polar bear territory, there was a group of arctic wolves checking us out and it was getting late.

We knew then that there was no way these machines were going to get anywhere close to where we needed them. This is when we made our call to pause the journey. We were proven right on the return journey to Grise Fiord when the better of the two machines blew a piston and had to be abandoned.

Pushing forward would have been foolhardy and reckless. It wasn't going to happen this year for us. We made the right call. No regrets.

THE CHALLENGE TO ADAPT

Why is a person driven to be an explorer? They travel to places where few have ever been, to find out what's there and to share it with the world, Kevin explained.

"In my leadership work, I challenge people to adapt and grow when they face challenge and adversity. There's no failure in attempting something difficult and not completing it; there's only the learning that comes from it. Now it's my turn. On this journey, I discovered I had nothing more to prove."

Kevin and his team will head north next year with a different approach, new skills and a more inclusive view to achieving their goal – incorporating Indigenous learning and Inuit team members in their expedition. They will focus more on the people who make their home on Ellesmere Island, those who have been tasked by Canada with asserting our sovereignty in the far north as they face the inevitability of climate and cultural change.

After spending time with our Inuit friends of Grise Fiord and learning from them, we know there's a better way. It will involve us learning new skills, training even harder, and positively evolving to achieve success."

