



Policy Watch

- **Fair Wages Commission** has tabled its [second report](#) on alternate minimum wage. Highlights:
 - Annual increases to live-in camp leaders at the same rate as minimum wage
 - Abolish alternate wage for live-in homecare workers
 - Phase out liquor-server alternate wage by 2021
 - Maintain alternate wage for farmworkers paid piece rate, but establish minimum wage as the floor by June 2019
- The **Employer Health Tax** passed the legislature last month. Rules for charities are expected before fall. Concerned about the impact on your organization? Send information on costs and your preferred solution (an exemption or corresponding increase in grants) to jpaterson@boardvoice.ca. Contact your MLA in NDP ridings.
- Government's **rental housing task force** is touring BC to consult on increasing affordability. Share your concerns and solutions on behalf of staff and clients (and raise your profile!). [Details.](#) [Online consultations.](#)
- BC will **invest \$30 million** in the next two years to [expand Aboriginal Head Start](#) programs, in partnership with First Nations Health Authority and Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC. New early-learning spaces on/off reserves.

What you need to know...

Take an MLA to work!

Imagine Canada has launched iMPact Day to encourage MPs to spend a day with a local social benefit organization between Aug. 15 and Sept. 16. How about including our MLAs?

It's a great idea – when elected representatives see our work firsthand, and meet our clients and committed teams, how can they help but become supporters? Board Voice will be encouraging MLAs to join in this commitment. Please invite your area MPs and MLAs to visit you during this event. We'll share more details closer to the date.

Speaking of dates, mark your calendar for the **Board Voice annual conference Nov. 16-17 in Richmond.**

The conference committee has been busy assembling a great lineup. Don't miss this chance to increase your effectiveness as a board member and gain insights into the big issues affecting our agencies, not to mention the chance to network and learn from your peers across the province.

The opening keynote speaker is [Alex Nelson](#), a residential-school survivor and member of the Musgamagwx Dzawada'enuwx First Nations.

Recently named to the BC Sports Hall of Fame, Nelson is the founder of Aboriginal Sports and Recreation BC, the first such Indigenous sports organization in Canada. The action-packed conference

agenda features conversations with Health Minister Adrian Dix and the Minister for Social Policy Development and Poverty Reduction, Shane Simpson.

Join us for informative workshops and illuminating panels on governance, advocating for children and youth, risk management, bringing the principles of reconciliation to life, and more.

Stay tuned! We will be creating a conference page on the [Board Voice website](#) for easy registration, updates, details on speakers and more.

On getting heard. One of the most effective ways to give voice to BC's non-profit sector is to be visible in our communities, sharing stories, experiences, news and challenges with the public, government, other funders and each other.

In May, our 34 Twitter posts sharing members' news, information and opportunities reached more than 8,000 people.

Our 24 Facebook posts in May reached more than 2,200 people.

Let's connect! Look for Board Voice on these social-media platforms:



Queries, questions, concerns, ideas:

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