

B.C. WEATHER OUTLOOK

Prince George: Today, sunny with cloudy periods. High 5. Tonight, mainly cloudy. Chance of showers or flurries overnight. Becoming windy. Low -1. Wednesday, mainly cloudy. A few showers or morning flurries. Windy at times. High 5. Probability of precipitation in per cent 10 today, 40 tonight and 70 Wednesday.

Interior: A weak ridge of high pressure moved into the interior this morning. As a result many areas will experience a generally sunny day today although some clouds will persist in a few localities. A Pacific frontal system approaching the B.C. coast will spread increasing clouds to the western interior late this afternoon and to the remainder of the interior overnight. The system should weaken considerably prior to reaching the interior and only a few showers or flurries are expected tonight and Wednesday.

Cariboo: Tonight, cloudy. Showers or flurries likely developing during the evening.

Becoming windy. Low -2. Wednesday, mainly cloudy. Showers or morning flurries likely. Windy. High 7. Probability of precipitation in per cent 20 today, 70 tonight and 70 Wednesday.

Parsnip: Tonight, a few cloudy periods. Low -4. Wednesday, mainly cloudy. Showers or flurries likely. High 4. Probability of precipitation in per cent 20 today, 20 tonight and 70 Wednesday.

Bulkley Valley: Tonight, mainly cloudy. A few showers or flurries developing during the evening. Becoming windy. Low -2. Wednesday, mainly cloudy. Showers likely. High 6. Probability of precipitation in per cent 20 today, 70 tonight and 70 Wednesday.

Okanagan: Tonight, mainly cloudy. A few showers or flurries developing in the evening. Lows near 0. Wednesday, mainly cloudy. Showers likely except mixed with flurries in the morning. Windy at times. High 8. Probability of precipitation in per

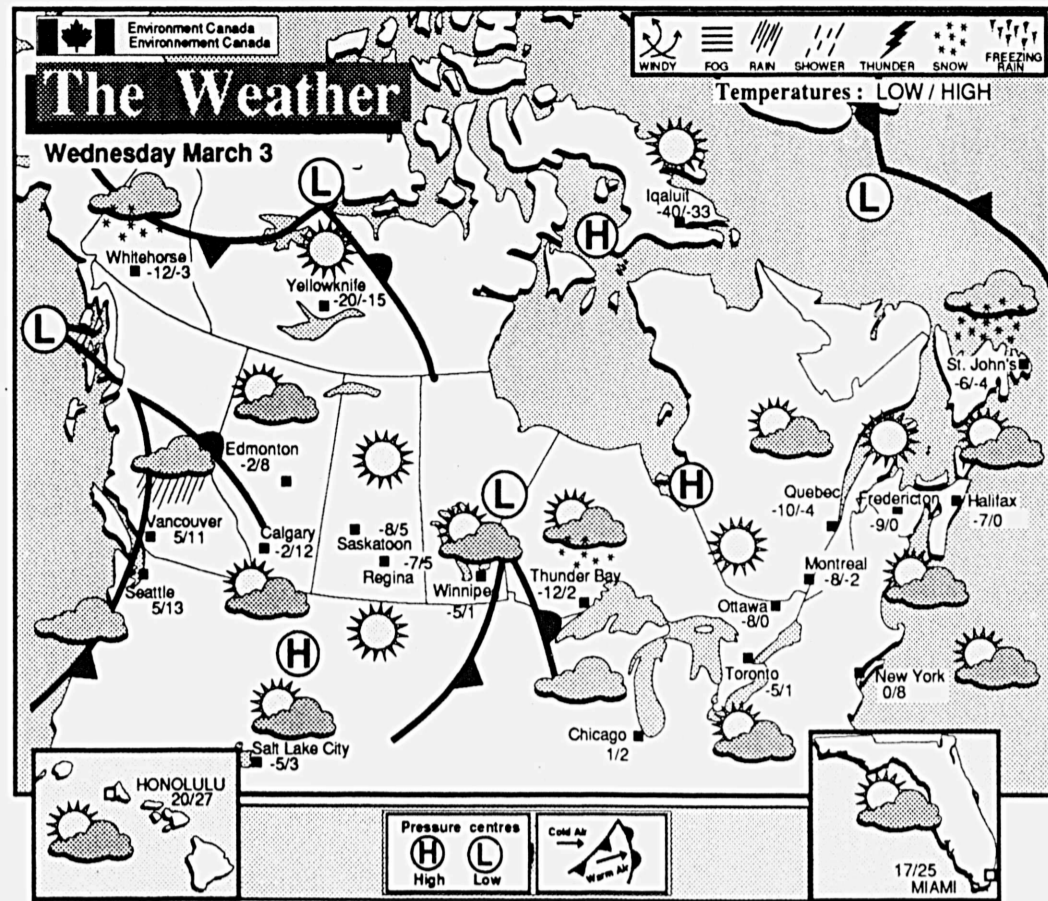
cent 20 today, 70 tonight and 70 Wednesday.

Coast: A weak ridge of high pressure will move rapidly eastward today as the next frontal system moves up from the southwest. This system may be fairly slow to move in initially as it winds up offshore. However, when it does arrive it will bring rain and wind to most areas.

Vancouver: Tonight, rain. Windy. Low 5. Wednesday, rain easing to showers. Windy. High 11. Probability of precipitation in per cent 70 today, 100 tonight and 90 Wednesday.

Victoria: Tonight, rain. Windy. Low 4. Wednesday, rain easing to showers. High 11. Probability of precipitation in per cent 90 today, 100 tonight and 90 Wednesday.

Fraser Valley: Tonight, rain. Windy. Low 5. Wednesday, rain easing to showers. Locally windy. High 12. Probability of precipitation in per cent 40 today, 100 tonight and 100 Wednesday.



PRINCE GEORGE FORECAST

POP means probability of precipitation in percent

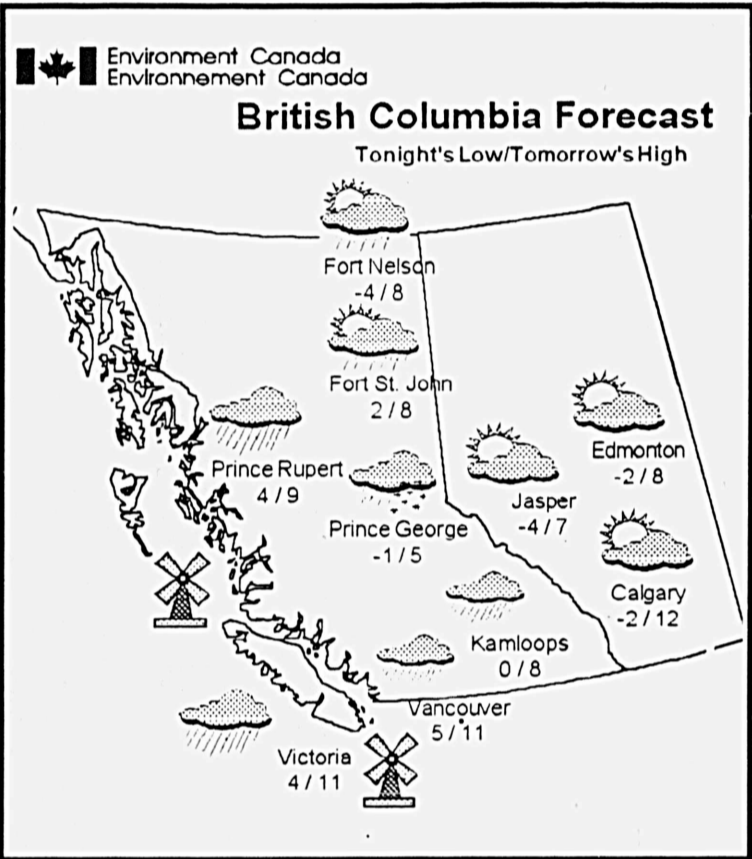
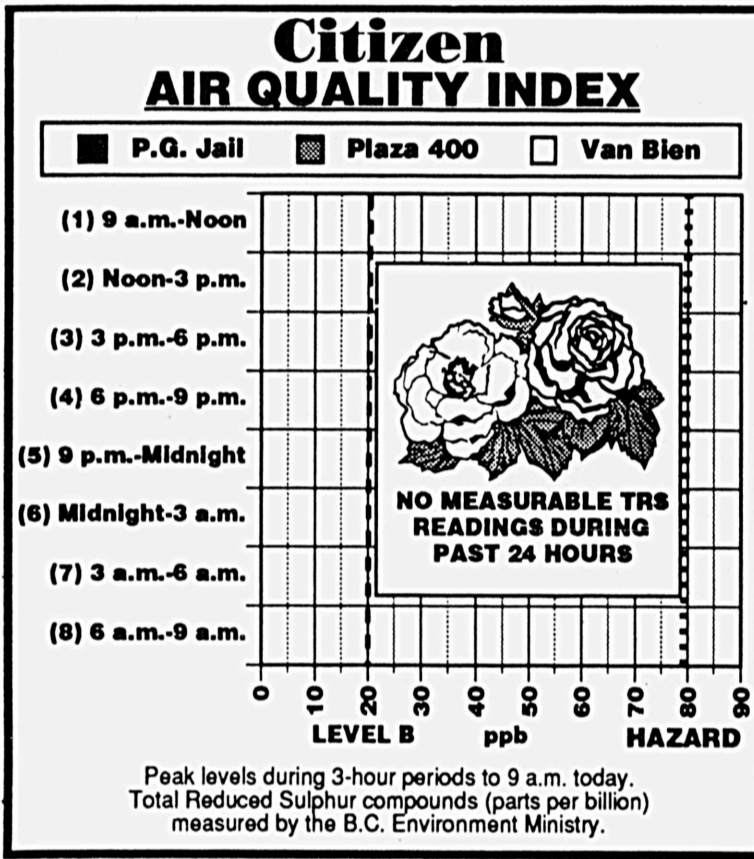
Day	Weather	High	Low	POP
Today	Sunny with cloudy periods in the afternoon	6	-1	10
Tonight	Mainly cloudy. Chance of showers or flurries. Windy	-	-1	40
Wednesday	Cloudy with a few showers or flurries. Windy at times	5	5	70
Thursday	Cloudy few sunny breaks. Chance of showers or flurries	4	4	60
Friday	Cloudy, sunny breaks. Chance of showers or flurries	5	5	70
Saturday	Cloudy a few sunny periods. Chance of showers or flurries	6	6	60

SMOKE

The concentration of minute smoke particles in the air averaged 19 micrograms during the past 24 hours, which is rated GOOD by the environment ministry.

TEMPERATURES

TORONTO (CP) — Temperatures in Celsius; precipitation in millimetres:	Dease Lake	7 -7	0.012	The Pas	11 -1	0.000
Vancouver	Peace River	7 -2	0.000	Kenora	10 -4	0.000
Victoria	Whitehorse	3 -5	0.000	Thunder Bay	9 -2	0.000
Edmonton	Yellowknife	-11 -12	0.032	N. Bay	-4 -2	0.000
Calgary	Inuvik	-9 -25	0.000	Toronto	0 -7	0.000
Winnipeg	Resolute Bay	-38 -42	0.000	Ottawa	1 -8	0.000
Regina	Eureka	-43 -46	0.000	Montreal	-2 -10	0.000
Saskatoon	Alert	-	0.000	Fredericton	-1 -12	0.000
Thunder Bay	Cambridge Bay	-31 -32	0.002	Charlottetown	-5 -7	0.118
Windsor	Calgary	14 -2	0.000	Halifax	-	0.000
London	Edmonton	9 -1	0.000	St. John's	6 -2	0.082
Ottawa	Lethbridge	9 -1	0.048	Seattle	8 -4	0.025
Portland	Medicine Hat	10 -1	0.000	Spokane	3 -6	0.010
San Francisco	Swift Current	10 -10	0.000	Portland	2 -0	0.112
Los Angeles	Regina	6 -4	0.000	San Francisco	15 -7	0.000
Miami	Saskatoon	5 -4	0.000	Los Angeles	17 -9	0.000
	Prince Albert	8 -5	0.000	Las Vegas	16 -5	0.000
	N. Battleford	6 -6	0.000	Reno	11 -1	0.000
	Winnipeg	5 -8	0.000	Phoenix	16 -8	0.000
	Brandon	4 -8	0.000	New York City	6 -2	0.000
	Churchill	-18 -29	0.016	Miami	25 -13	0.000



ALMANAC

Sunrise	6:54 AM
Sunset	5:52 PM
Moonrise	12:02 WED
Moonset	4:39 THUR

Full Moon	08/03
Last Quarter	14/03
New Moon	22/03
First Quarter	30/03

Yesterday High:	8.2	A Year Ago Today High:	8.8
Yesterday Low:	2.4	A Year Ago Today Low:	-4.4
Yesterday Rainfall (mm):	0.4	A Year Ago Today Rainfall (mm):	0.0
Yesterday Snowfall (cm):	0.0	A Year Ago Today Snowfall (cm):	0.0
Yesterday Sunshine (hrs):	1.5	A Year Ago Today Sunshine (hrs):	5.7

Legal service tax changes in the works

VICTORIA (CP) — The B.C. government will introduce legislation re-imposing the sales tax on legal services in spite of a court ruling Friday that the tax is unconstitutional, Finance Minister Glen Clark said Monday.

Justice Kenneth Lysyk struck down the tax in B.C. Supreme Court, saying it violated the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The bar association and the B.C. Law Society had brought a joint suit against the government.

The new legislation will be introduced during the upcoming legislative session that starts March 18, Clark said.

It will define taxable legal services more precisely, "to address the reasons on which the tax was found unconstitutional," he said.

Clark said the tax is necessary to help offset the rising costs of government programs, including legal aid. He said the tax was expected to raise about \$30 million during the current fiscal year.

He also said the government is considering an appeal of the court ruling.

A Canadian Bar Association official said re-imposing the sales tax is a "knee-jerk response" that is unfair to taxpayers.

"This is not a tax on lawyers," said Parker McCarthy, vice-president of the B.C. section of the bar association.

"This is a tax on people who use lawyers."

The association believes legal services are essential services and people have a direct right to access them, he said.

"Here they've been collecting a tax through legislation that was ruled invalid, and now they're going to simply rework the law to let them keep (the tax)," he said.

"I would say that raises questions of fairness."

'FLASHBACKS AND NIGHTMARES' Police raid sparks lawsuit

by Canadian Press
COQUITLAM — A suburban Vancouver family is suing the RCMP for damages for what they say was a botched raid on their home almost two years ago.

"The children still have flashbacks and nightmares and my husband and I do, too," Angela Vukelic, 42, said Monday. "I don't wish anyone to go through what we went through."

In a B.C. Supreme Court suit filed Monday, the Vukelic family seeks unspecified damages from the RCMP.

Just before dawn March 15, 1991, a Coquitlam RCMP emergency response team was poised

to move in on two youths who rented the Vukelics' basement suite.

But Dragan Vukelic was awakened because his German Shepherd, Lobo, was barking. When the 47-year-old former bricklayer walked outside to quiet the dog, he was beaten unconscious by police.

"Angela Vukelic witnessed her husband being jumped upon, kicked and beaten by three men wearing masks over their faces," the writ states. "(She) heard gunshots and believed that her husband had just been killed."

"The family dog returned

bleeding to the family home, lay down and died."

The basement-suite tenants escaped but were picked up later that night by police. A handgun and some drugs were recovered from the basement.

The documents also say that Vukelic's two sons — now 18 and 20 years old — were threatened at gunpoint while police "proceeded to run through the house with their guns drawn, terrifying the plaintiffs."

The suit says Dragan Vukelic now has blurred vision — as well as knee, shoulder and elbow pain — and hasn't worked since the beating.

"This poor family — they were terrified," said family lawyer Ray Chouinard. "Recovery is slow. (Dragan Vukelic) has been a laborer all his life. If you can't work with your body what can you do?"

The RCMP admitted wrongdoing, replaced Lobo with another German Shepherd and have supplemented the Vukelic's income since the ordeal.

"The RCMP feels terrible about the whole incident," said RCMP Sgt. Peter Montague.

"We feel we were liable for discomfort caused to the family, and as a result we are trying to make amends."

Tree farm licence returned

SMITHERS (CP) — Westar Timber has returned a tree farm licence in northwestern British Columbia to the provincial government.

Forests Minister Dan Miller says that means the licence in Cranberry River will become a timber supply area.

Westar was allowed to cut 110,000 cubic metres of timber a year in the 77,000-hectare area.

Miller says the province's chief forester now will decide what the annual cut will be and how it will be distributed.

Westar gave up the licence after closing the Kitwanga sawmill and transferring other operations to Repap Camaby.

Westar officials say there were no suitable offers for the Kitwanga mill and workers will soon be getting their severance pay.

Gov't eyes tax modifications

VICTORIA (CP) — The B.C. corporate capital tax introduced in the New Democrat government's first budget last year will likely be modified in next month's budget, Premier Harcourt said Monday.

The government can't afford to eliminate the tax, but had heard many representations from business people who felt it should be based on profit, not just capital, Harcourt said from Toronto.

There were several anomalies in how the tax was imposed and Harcourt said the government had

listened to the arguments put forward.

"We're not going to get rid of it, but there are some areas we're looking at," he said.

The tax, which raised more than \$200 million this fiscal year for the government, was criticized by some of those listening to Harcourt at the C.D. Howe Institute on Monday.

"They expressed the fact that they didn't like the corporate capital tax and my response was: 'Neither do I.'"

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